

HITLER THE ANTI-CHRIST

See Page 10

LATE NIGHT FINAL



CHINA MAIL

OLDEST NEWSPAPER IN THE FAR EAST. ESTABLISHED 1845.

No. 30,910 WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 20, 1939 Price: 10 Cts.

INSIST ON

Daisy Brand

BUTTER

Australia's Choicest

ANOTHER NAZI VESSEL RUN TO GROUND

London, To-day.

ANOTHER NAZI SHIP has been run to ground, this time a large oil-tanker, fully laden, which was endeavouring to steal out of the Gulf of Mexico hugging the coast of the United States.

The tanker was challenged by H.M.S. Orion, which fired a shot across her bows and ordered her to steam east. The German skipper took a chance and steamed west and managed to get inside American territorial waters before the British cruiser could cut her off.

The vessels then steamed on a parallel course, the tanker just inside and the cruiser just outside territorial waters.

Finally, the tanker anchored outside an American port and H.M.S. Orion dropped anchor, within sight of her about 1½ miles outside territorial waters.

The American authorities are examining the Nazi ship and if she is armed she will be ordered to leave in 24 hours. —Reuter.

VIOLATION OF NORWAY BY SOVIET

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

Stockholm, To-day.

Despite Soviet denials it is confirmed in well-informed circles that Soviet troops violated the Norwegian frontier.

It is also stated that the Soviet manoeuvre in northern Finland failed as the Finns are falling back in an orderly manner. —Havas.

WAR COST TO FRANCE

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

Paris, To-day.

The Finance Minister, M. Paul Reynaud, yesterday submitted to the finance committee of the Chamber of Deputies estimates for military expenditure in the first quarter of 1940.

M. Reynaud said the constantly changing military situation does not allow for definite estimates for the full year.

First quarter credits amount to 55,000,000,000 francs, while total credits for 1940 will probably reach the figure of 250,000,000,000 francs.

M. Reynaud pointed out that expenses will be covered by loans as authorised by law, and asked for quick passage of the bill "which marks the nation's determination to carry the war to a victorious conclusion." —Havas.

SET AFIRE ON SIGHTING WARSHIP

London, To-day.

An Admiralty announcement on the Columbus scuttling incident states that the German liner, on sighting a British warship some 400 miles to the north of Bermuda set herself on fire and her crew abandoned her. —Reuter.

GERMANS MASSING ON WESTERN FRONT

London, To-day.

A correspondent of the "Daily Telegraph" reports that between 19 and 20 German army corps are now concentrated along the German frontiers of Belgium, Luxembourg and the Netherlands. —Reuter.

SOVIET SEEKING TO SATISFY TURKEY?

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

Budapest, To-day.

According to press reports Stalin has personally instructed the Foreign Commissariat not to spare efforts to achieve an understanding with Turkey.

Consequently efforts are being made to resume the conversations broken off with the departure of M. Sarajoglu, the Turkish Foreign Minister, from Moscow in October. —Havas.

REFUGEE MONKS IN STOCKHOLM

Stockholm, To-day.

Fifteen refugee monks from Arctic Finland arrived safely in Stockholm yesterday. One of them said that he had rarely seen a woman for the past 24 years of his monastic retirement.

They fled before the approach of the Red Army, and all said that but for their age they would now be fighting against Soviet Russia.

When the Soviets arrived at their monastery, the monks said, they destroyed a number of valuable icons and paintings.

"We fled in sub-freezing weather, with no time to save our clothes," they said. —Reuter.

BOMBING OF TOWNS DENIED BY AIR MINISTRY

London, To-day.

The Air Ministry announces that the German news agency report that British aircraft yesterday morning bombed towns in the island of Sylt is entirely false. —Reuter.

GRAF SPEE CREW'S PAY PROVISION

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

Buenos Aires, To-day.

The Argentinian Government is to pay 100,000 pesos a month for the salaries of the Graf Spee's officers and crew.

The men are to be interned in a military area. —Havas.

ALLIED WAR COUNCIL DISCUSSION

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

Paris, To-day.

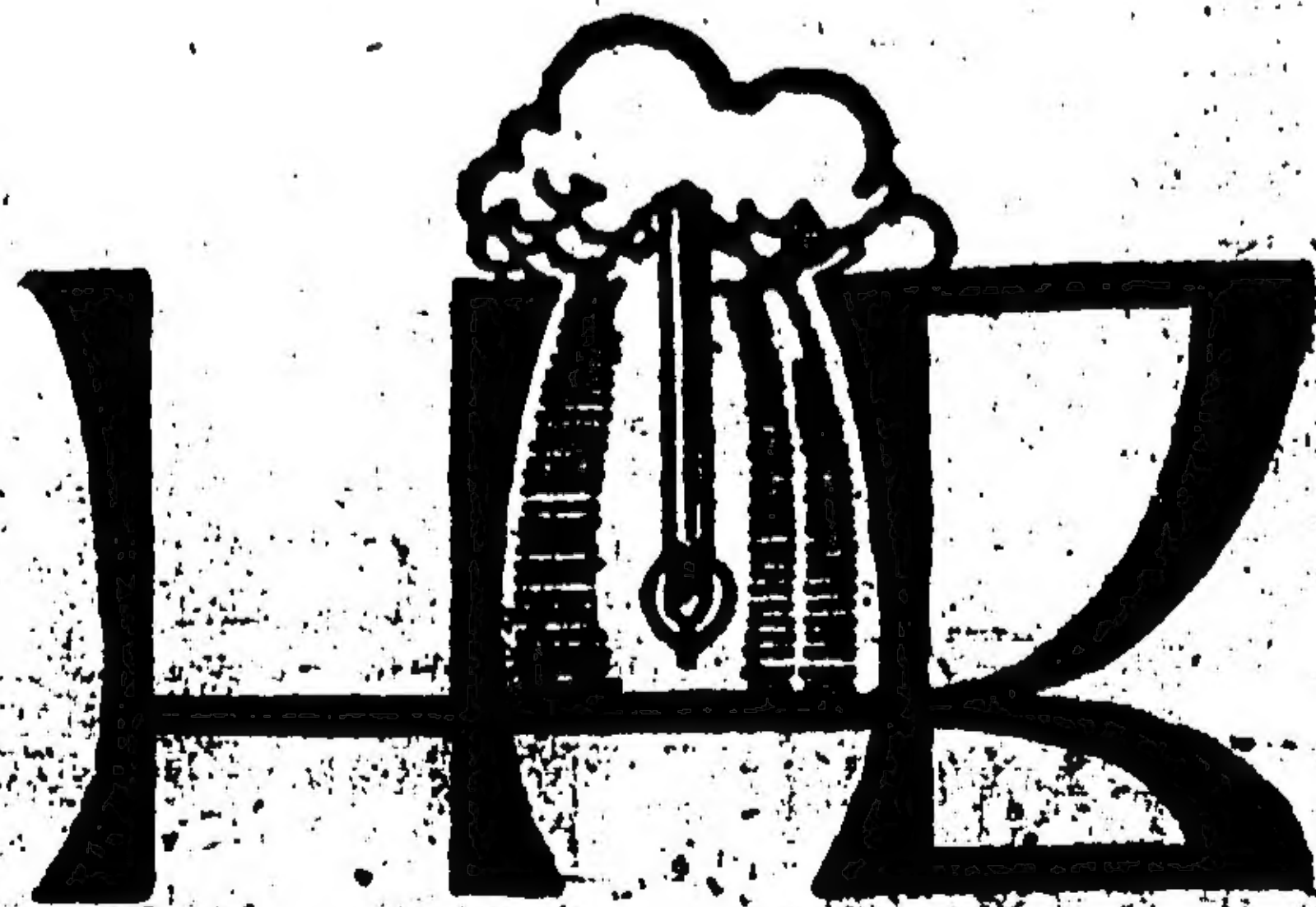
Informed quarters understand that the meeting of the Allied War Council yesterday served to examine the changes brought about in the international situation by the fact that Russia is no longer a neutral power and no more a member of the League of Nations.

The Council also examined ways and means of granting effective material aid to Finland, and also what attitude France and Britain would adopt if Sweden was involved in the conflict. It is understood that the last French Cabinet meeting was devoted to the Finnish problem.

It is believed the Allied Council decided not only on questions of principle but also methods of enforcement of concrete measures, although the authorities refrain from specifying how Anglo-French co-operation is being enforced in this field. —Havas.

WEATHER FORECAST:—East winds, moderate; fine at first, cloudy later, warmer.

HAVE AN H.B.—



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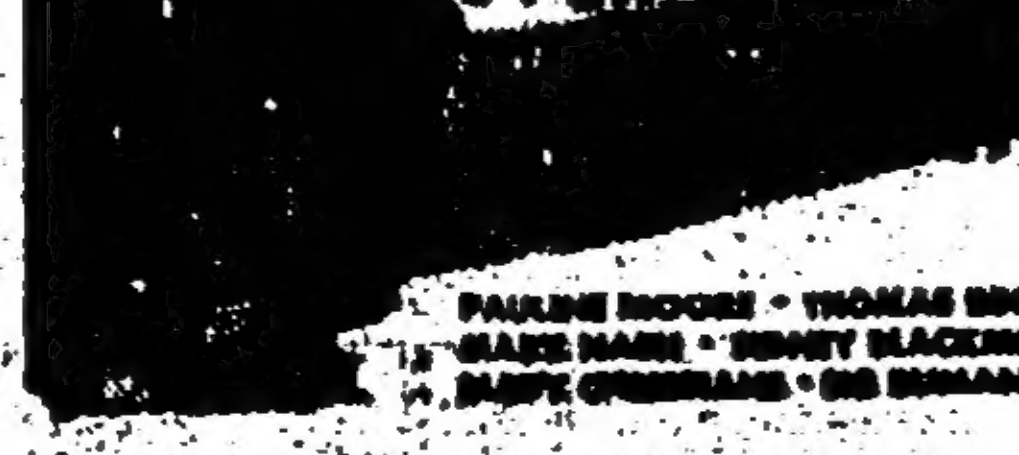
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• TO-MORROW •

Loretta Young—Warner Baxter—Virginia Bruce
in "WIFE, DOCTOR AND NURSE"

THE CHINA MAIL, DECEMBER 20, 1939.

PREMIER'S HIGH TRIBUTE TO THE B.E.F.

London, To-day.

MR. NEVILLE CHAMBERLAIN paid a high tribute to the British Expeditionary Force in France in the course of a broadcast last evening. The Prime Minister said, inter alia: "I have been impressed by everything I have seen of the troops and the air components."

"When I consider the shortness of time the force has been in France, conditions of weather and other difficulties, I am simply amazed at the progress made."

"I must congratulate the Commander-in-Chief upon the way that his preparations for defence have been progressing and upon the obvious smartness and efficiency of the troops in his command."

"I have been delighted to hear of the excellent relations existing between the B.E.F. and the French inhabitants."

Mr. Chamberlain concluded by saying he had complete confidence in the ability of the B.E.F. to tackle any task.—Reuter.

U.S. & CUBA QUOTAS

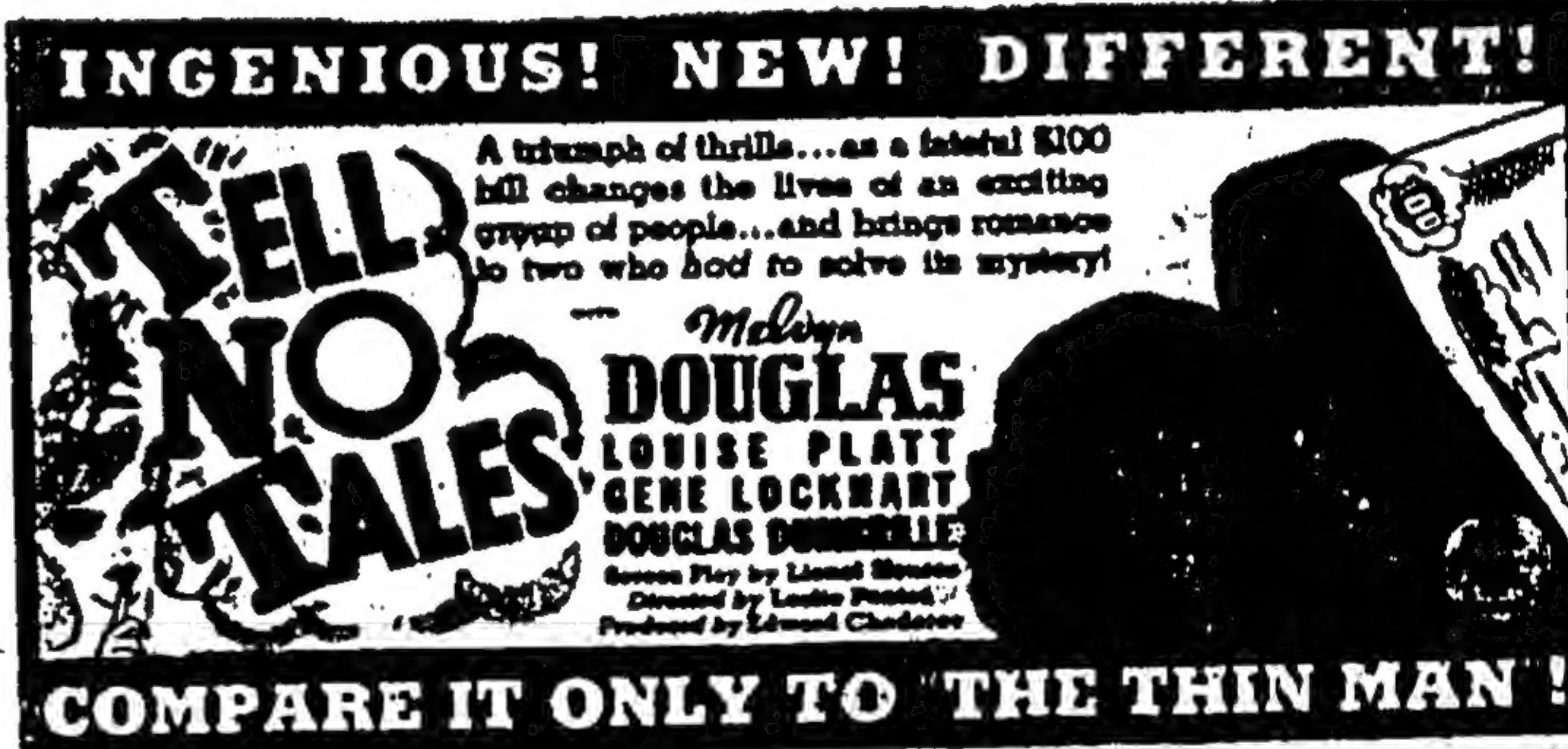
New York, To-day.

The White House now reports that President Roosevelt has not signed the restoration of the Cuban sugar quotas but a document restoring the former sugar import duties. No details are given.

The President's secretary stated that Mr. Roosevelt made a slip of the tongue when he made his earlier statement at the press conference.—Reuter.

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Merle Oberon • Laurence Olivier
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TO-MORROW

"KING KONG"

U.S. AID TO FINLAND

NEW YORK, TO-DAY.
EX-PRESIDENT HERBERT HOOVER, WHO IS HEAD OF THE FINNISH RELIEF CAMPAIGN, YES-TERDAY CABLED THE FINNISH PRIME MINISTER THE SUM OF \$100,000 CONTRIBUTED BY AMERICANS FOR THE RELIEF OF NON-COMBATANT VICTIMS.

Acceptances have been received from people in 14 States who were requested by Mr. Hoover to start a state-wide campaign; these people will appoint chairmen of local committees to co-operate with the 200 daily newspapers participating in the scheme.

Mr. Hoover hopes to have acceptances from the other States by the end of the week.—Reuter.

DEATH MYSTERY

That there was insufficient evidence to show the cause of death, was the finding of Mr. E. Himsworth at an inquest this morning.

The inquiry concerned a coolie, Lu Chuk, 30, whose body was picked up in the East Lamma Channel on November 7.

Dr. H. H. Tai, of the Kowloon Public Mortuary, stated that it was impossible to ascertain the cause of death, as the body was so attacked by sea creatures.

Cheng King-fung, 27, the widow, said she last saw her husband at 9 a.m. on November 4. He left with a man who engaged him to carry cargo to the s.s. Helikon. She was informed by her nephew in the afternoon that her husband had been attacked by the ship's crew and pushed overboard.

Fuk Wah-hok, residing in Queen's Road Central, has reported the theft of a camera, fountain pens, and pencils to the total value of \$202, between Monday and yesterday.

BIG HAUL IN CITY

A total of \$16,600 in money and jewellery was stolen from the occupants of a room on the second floor of 172, Wellington Street, early this morning.

Four men, armed with revolvers, forced their way in at about 7 o'clock, and, holding up the occupants, stole Hong Kong \$15,500; Chinese National \$1,500; Singapore \$34; and a diamond ring.

They escaped before the alarm could be raised.

KING VICTOR TO VISIT POPE PIUS

Rome, To-day.
King Victor and the Queen will make their first visit to Pope Pius XII on Thursday. It is expected that the occasion will be marked by an exchange of addresses between the King and the Pontiff.—Reuter.

CENTRAL THEATRE

TO-DAY & TO-MORROW

at 12.30, 2.30, 5.15, 7.20 & 9.30 p.m.

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TO-MORROW

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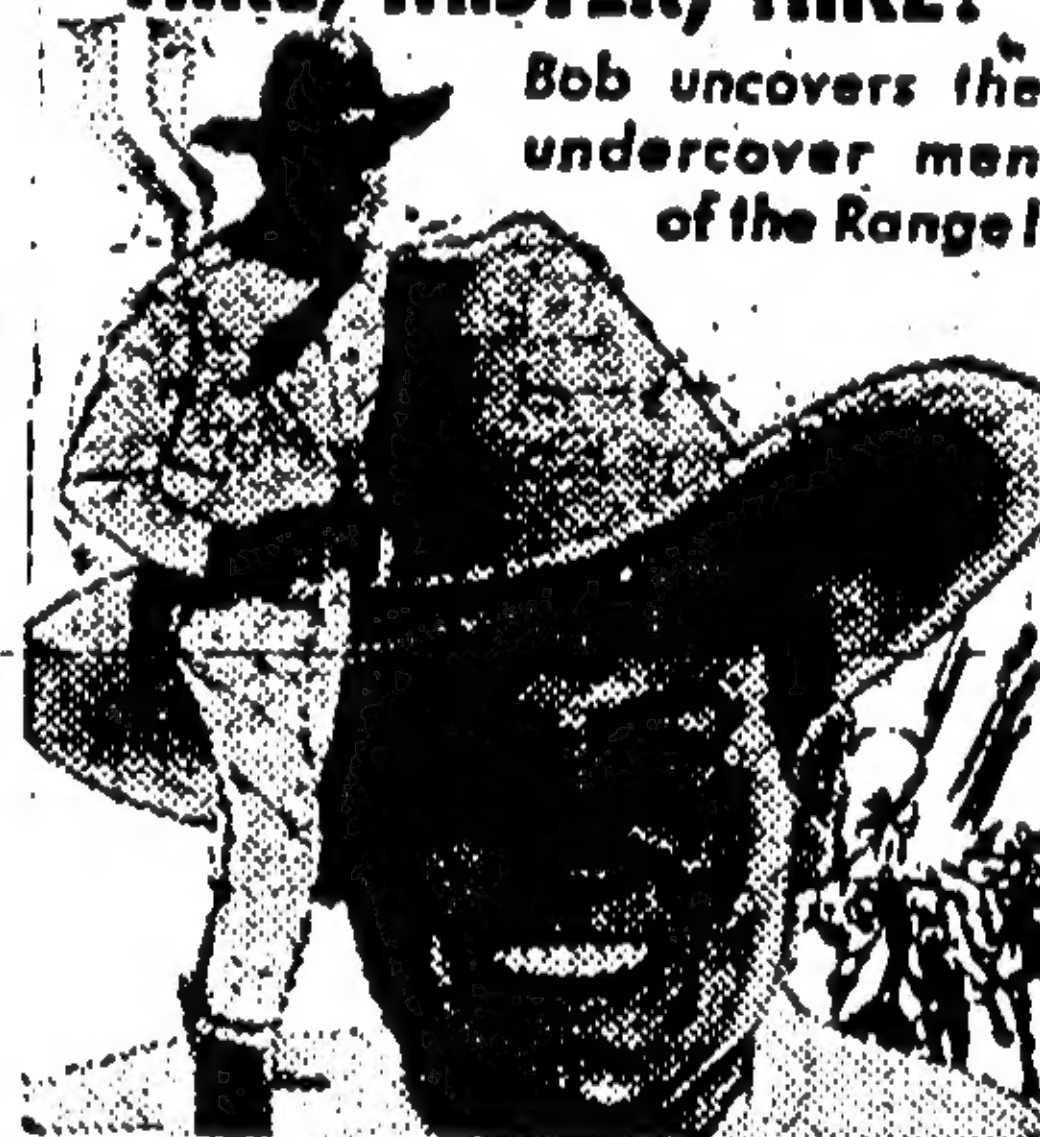
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NAZI AIR TACTICS

Still Attacking Defenceless Fishing Craft

GERMANY'S AIR LOSSES

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

London, To-day.

Several of the latest type Messerschmidt fighters, the new two-engined craft known as ME 110 were among those shot down by R.A.F. bombers in Monday night's air battle over Heligoland.

It is now stated that more than 12 German machines were shot down.

One British machine, which was isolated from the rest of the squadron, and was persistently attacked by German fighters pursuing it out to sea, shot down five itself.

In the course of a series of combats, first the gunner and then the observer were wounded, and the second pilot then took over the rear machine-gun and used it with deadly effect.—Havas.

FOUR BRITISH AIRMEN RESCUED

London, To-day.

Four British airmen, believed to have taken part in Monday's big air battle, have been picked up at sea in their collapsible boat. A naval trawler landed them at an East Coast port yesterday.—Reuter.

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BOMB GRIMSBY TRAWLERS AND THEN USE MACHINE-GUNS

London, To-day.

GERMAN AEROPLANES are again attacking defenceless British fishing craft, and yesterday sank one and injured three of the crew of a second. Both were Grimsby trawlers.

A member of the crew of the first vessel said that bombs were first dropped on them and then the German aircraft machine-gunned the ship. Three men in the fore-castle were killed by a bomb and another was injured.

The cook is missing from the other trawler, which was only a quarter of a mile away at the time. The skipper reports that seven bombs were dropped, and all of them missed. An aerial torpedo was then fired and it exploded under the trawler just as the crew were trying to launch their small boat.—Reuter.

GERMAN PLANES IN SHETLAND AREA

London, To-day.

German aeroplanes were reported off the Shetlands yesterday afternoon. R.A.F. fighters went up to give battle.—Reuter.

THIRTEEN SURVIVORS OF NORWEGIAN SHIP

London, To-day.

Thirteen survivors from a Norwegian ship, were landed at an east Scottish port yesterday. The captain and four men are missing, and seven are injured.

Although no submarine was sighted, it is believed that the ship, a vessel of 1,568 tons, was torpedoed.

The survivors were in the open sea for nine hours before they were picked up by a Greek steamer.—Reuter.

THE "GLITREFJELL"

London, To-day.

Thirteen survivors of the Norwegian steamer Glitrefjell (1,568 tons) were landed in a Scottish port yesterday.

The captain and four seamen lost their lives.

It is believed the vessel was torpedoed.—Reuter.

ITALIAN SHIP LANDS BRITONS

Genoa, To-day.

The captain of the Italian cargo steamer Caterina Gerolmich reported on arrival here that he had landed at Dover 11 British sailors taken from a German submarine in the English Channel.

The sailors, four of whom were wounded, were from the British steamer Daring, which was torpedoed by a U-boat which later put them on board the Italian vessel.—Reuter.

TRAWLER TRAGEDY

London, To-day.

The German planes earlier sighted near the Shetland Isles yesterday attacked six trawlers to the north of the islands.

One of the vessels arrived in port with two deck hands killed and two wounded and the wheelhouse blown away.

They reported sighting smoke in the near distance, probably indicating that another trawler was burning.—Reuter.

SPECIAL PATROL'S PRISONERS

Paris, To-day.

A number of French soldiers volunteered on Monday for a special patrol. They penetrated for some miles behind the German lines and brought back a number of prisoners, including two officers.—Reuter.

R.A.F. RAIDS ON NORTH GERMANY

London, To-day.

A German communique in Berlin claims that the R.A.F. made a raid on the north-west coast of Germany on Monday, trying to reach the Frisan Islands, between 5.40 p.m. and 9.40 p.m.

In connection with the earlier raid, in which the Air Ministry announces, 12 Messerschmidts were shot down, and 7 R.A.F. bombers have not been accounted for, the full account cannot be made until the reports of the British pilots participating in the raid have been collated.

One of our bomber formations went to attack enemy warships. The bombers found no warships, but were almost immediately attacked by wave on wave of enemy planes.

The Germans are still making exaggerated claims and giving figures of their own "amazing successes." They claim to have brought down more British planes than took part in the raid!—Reuter.

HELSINKI SPY ARREST

Helsinki, To-day.

A sensation was caused yesterday by the arrest of a man said to be a German spy in the leading hotel in Helsinki.

He was employed there as a porter and is accused of engaging in espionage on behalf of the Reich.—Reuter.

STALIN'S BIRTHDAY

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

MOSCOW, TO-DAY.

THE SOVIET IS CELEBRATING STALIN'S SIXTIETH BIRTHDAY ON FRIDAY.

The whole press follows the example of "Pravda," which devotes two pages to Stalin's biography, describing him as "the genius behind the Soviet's industrialisation, collectivisation and purges of Bukharinist and Trotskyist beasts."

An exhibition of "Stalin in Soviet art and literature" is opening to-day in Leningrad.—Havas.

Wong Ching-ye, of No. 16, Lan Kai Fong, has reported that while walking in Queen's Road Central yesterday, a watch valued at \$45 was snatched from her hand.

OFF THE RECORD

By Ed Reed



"I'd love to go, Dear, but I haven't a thing to wear!"

Here's Luck
EWO BEER
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GERMANY PUTTING BEST FACE ON GRAF SPEE LOSS

Stockholm, To-day.

THE FATE OF THE Admiral Graf Spee is a severe blow for Germany, says the Berlin correspondent of the "Dagbladet."

The correspondent declares that official quarters in Berlin are very bitter regarding the refusal of the Uruguayan Government to allow the battleship extension of time in order to enable the necessary repairs to be made.

The Nazis accuse Uruguay of a flagrant breach of international law, and declare the matter will not be forgotten by Germany.

They allege that Uruguay submitted to British pressure, and therefore their action in sending Graf Spee out of Montevideo "in a state of disrepair" was not in conformity with strict neutrality.

"CONSOLATION"

The correspondent adds, however that there is still the consolation in Germany that the Deutschland and Admiral Scheer can still harass British shipping, and British warships will still be obliged to operate far away from their home bases.

The Berlin representative of the "Tidningen" says that mourning for Graf Spee is combined with gratification that the battleship did not fall into British hands.

NAZI HONOUR

The British counted on a cheap victory, says the German press, but Hitler fooled them by his order to blow up the vessel!

The Nazi newspapers unite in declaring that the end of Graf Spee was an honourable one and was in conformity with the traditions of the German navy.—Reuter.

GERMANY DUPED BY BRITISH "REPORTS"

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")
LONDON, TO-DAY.

WELL-INFORMED CIRCLES STATED TO-DAY THAT THE GERMAN HIGH COMMAND WAS COMPLETELY DUPED BY BRITISH REPORTS ON THE CONCENTRATION OF ALLIED SHIPS WAITING OUTSIDE MONTEVIDEO HARBOUR FOR THE GERMAN POCKET BATTLESHIP ADMIRAL GRAF SPEE.

Far from having a formidable fleet of British and French warships, only the original warships which battled with the Graf Spee, H.M.S. Ajax and H.M.S. Achilles, minus H.M.S. Exeter, but plus H.M.S. Cumberland, actually waited for the pocket battleship.

Both the light cruisers had their ammunition supplies practically exhausted so that the Graf Spee, repaired and freshened, could have been a match for them.—Havas.

1939

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NOT IN PORT FOR FOUR MONTHS

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

Buenos Aires, To-day.

The Argentinian Navy Minister, Rear-Admiral L. Scasso, yesterday visited members of the crew of the Admiral Graf Spee at the hotel where they are being kept under guard.

The Argentine Government is paying the salaries of the 1,039 German officers and sailors, while deducting a certain amount for their upkeep.

The Graf Spee's sailors declared that they had not entered any port for the last four months.

They added that nine days after the war broke out the Graf Spee left Wilhelmshaven for the South Atlantic, with the aim of sinking Allied merchantmen.

Most of the sailors are young men without previous war experience.

Captain Langsdorf announced yesterday that he is remaining in the Argentine as long as the Argentinian Government wishes.—Havas.

WELDING A WEAKNESS NOT ASSET

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

London, To-day.

Naval experts state that the welding system employed by the German dockyards in the construction of warships makes their hulls more vulnerable than if ordinary rivetted plates were used.

This is shown both in the sinking of a German cruiser of the Koeln class by a single torpedo and in the damage caused to the Admiral Graf Spee by the six-inch shells of H.M.S. Ajax.

By discarding rivets, the Germans made their 10,000-ton pocket-battle ships lighter by nine hundred tons. The same type of warship, built by the rivetting system, would displace 10,900 tons.—Havas.

TACOMA MASTER TO FACE COURT

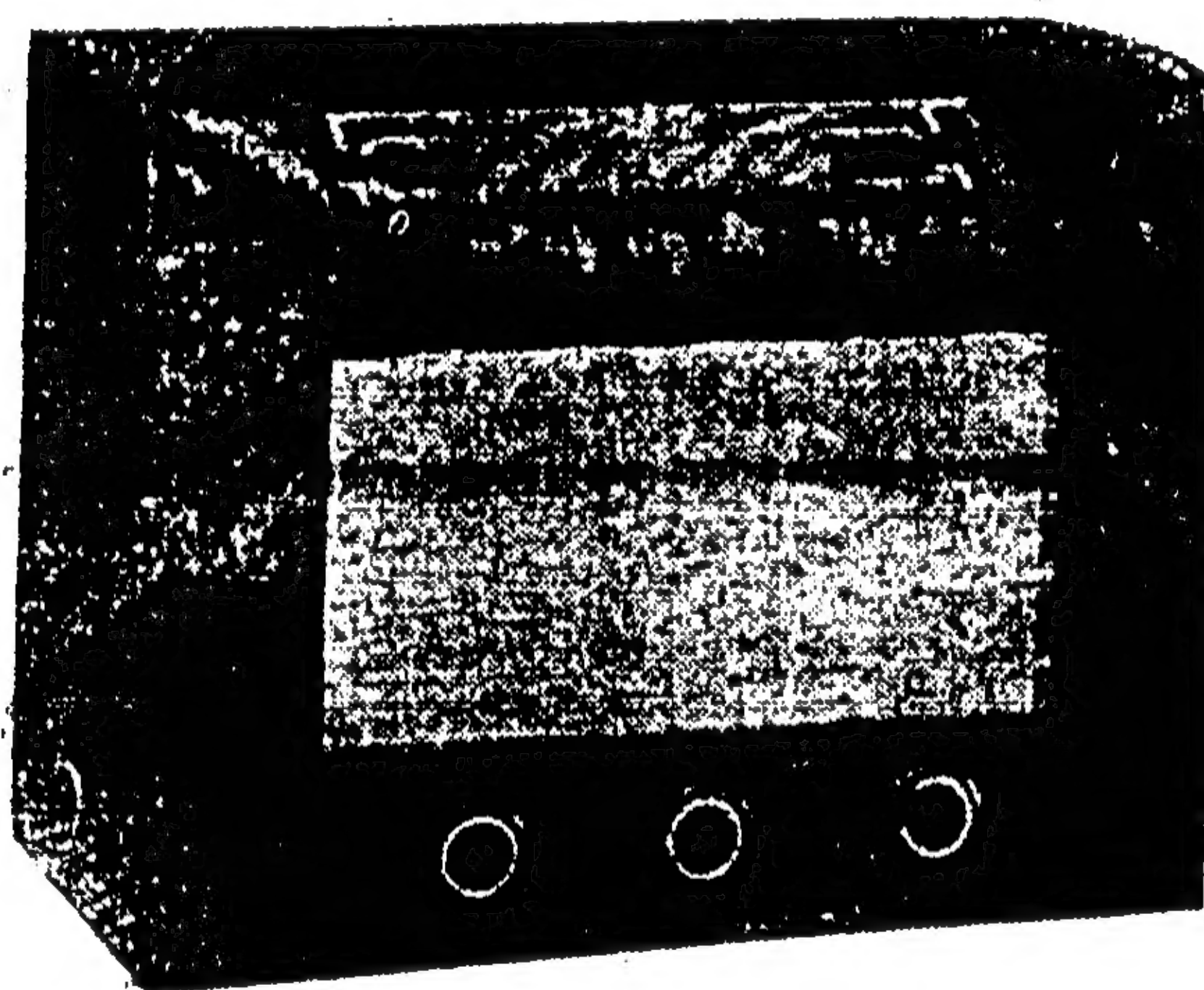
Montevideo, To-day.

The master of the German steamer Tacoma is to appear before the Uruguayan authorities who are investigating the scuttling of the Graf Spee in a main fairway.

He will be asked to explain why his ship left harbour and returned without authorisation during the Graf Spee's self-destruction.—Reuter.



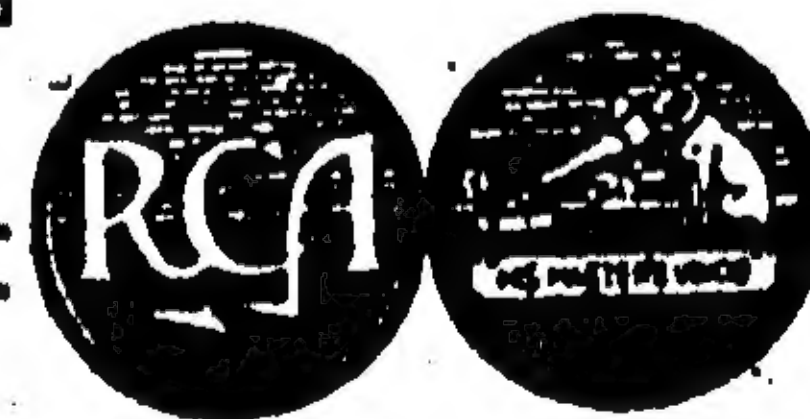
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SOVIET BATTLESHIP GOES TO THE BOTTOM

Sunk In Engagement With Finnish Coastal Batteries

VIOLENT ASSAULTS ON MANNERHEIM LINE CONTINUE

Helsinki, To-day.

RUSSIAN ATTACKS ON THE Mannerheim Line are now the fiercest since the fighting began, but the Finns say that they have driven them all back with heavy losses.

Soviet troops now claim to be within 60 miles of the Gulf of Bothnia, and it is clear now that they have made a rapid advance in the far north.

Reports of a Finnish victory at Suomosalmi were confirmed yesterday by the Commander-in-Chief. It is reported that a Soviet division of 17,000 men was destroyed.

Smallpox, it is reported, has broken out among the Soviet troops, and has already reached epidemic proportions. The wholesale vaccination of Finnish troops is now being carried out.—Reuter.

SINKING OF SOVIET BATTLESHIP

Helsinki, To-day.

A report on the sinking of a Soviet battleship asserts that the Russians knew the range of the biggest guns in the Finnish batteries to be only about three miles and accordingly kept their warships just out of range.

The Finns, however, brought up bigger and better artillery, and when the battleship was cruising within

four miles of the shore, fired a terrific salvo which hit and, it is believed, sank the battleship.—Reuter.

LATEST MOSCOW COMMUNIQUE

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

MOSCOW, TO-DAY.

AN OFFICIAL SOVIET COMMUNIQUE STATES THAT THE RED ARMY HAVE CAPTURED PITAJAERVI, EIGHTY KILOMETRES TO THE SOUTH OF PETSAMO.

It is reported that intense artillery action is proceeding in the Karelian Isthmus, the prelude to another violent Red Army assault.

Units of the Soviet Baltic Fleet

bombarded the Finnish coastal batteries at Bjorkoe, while Soviet planes engaged in extensive reconnaissance activity.—Havas.

"OCTOBER REVOLUTION" GOES TO BOTTOM

London, To-day.

The Soviet warship reported sunk off the Finnish coast was the large battleship, "October Revolution," according to reports from Helsinki.

The battleship was shelling coastal batteries, standing-off outside their range, when the Finns brought up some heavy howitzers and scored a direct hit with the first salvo, disabling the craft. They then pounded the doomed ship until she sank, within an hour.

No official claim has yet been made but the Finnish authorities stated that "it is quite likely."—Reuter.

SOVIET RAIDERS SHOT DOWN

Helsinki, To-day.

Several fierce engagements between Soviet raiders and Finnish anti-aircraft defences occurred yesterday, and it is claimed that four Red bombers were shot down.

The Russians bombed Hangoe on four different occasions, but the only serious damage was to a hospital on the outskirts.—Reuter.

THE "OCTOBER REVOLUTION" (SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

Helsinki, To-day.

It is unofficially reported that the Finns have sunk the "October Revolution," one of the biggest units of the Red Fleet.

The warship was six miles off the Finnish coast, knowing the Finnish coastal batteries' range was only five miles, but in the last few days the Finns had secretly placed new guns and in a few minutes these sank the

SOVIET RAID ON HELSINKI FOUGHT OFF

HELSINKI, TO-DAY.

SOVIET PLANES YESTERDAY RAIDED THE OUTSKIRTS OF HELSINKI IN A REWEVAL OF THE AERIAL ASSAULT ON THE FINNISH CAPITAL. EIGHTEEN MACHINES TOOK PART, BUT ONLY FOUR MANAGED TO GET NEAR THE CITY.

The first alarm was sounded at 11.20 a.m., the "all clear" being sounded at 12.15 p.m.

A little later, Soviet planes raided Viborg, one being shot down by anti-aircraft fire. There were no Finnish casualties.

Raiders approached Helsinki in scattered formation from the north, and anti-aircraft guns went into action, two planes being shot down when they tried to bomb the airport.

Further raids were expected in view of the clear weather now prevailing.—Reuter.

A typewriter valued at \$100 was stolen from No. 32, Connaught Road Central yesterday.

Soviet ship.

The "October Revolution" was built in 1911 and modernised in 1928. She was of 23,000 tons and carried 12 12-inch guns.

In the Imperial Russian Navy she bore the name Gangut.—Havas.



27880

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Huge German Liner Burning In The Atlantic

32,000-TON COLUMBUS SCUTTLED TO AVOID CAPTURE

GERMAN PROTEST TO CHILE

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")
Santiago, To-day.
The German Minister yesterday visited the Chilean Foreign Minister, with whom he lodged a strong protest against the admission of the German freighter, Dusseldorf, with a British prize crew on board, into the harbour of Antofagasta.—Havas.

BOXER HELD IN MURDER CASE

New York, To-day.
Ernie Haas, the well-known boxer, has been arrested in connection with the murder earlier this month of Walter Engleberg, secretary of the Nazi Consulate-General in New York.

Engleberg was found dead in his apartment with his head badly battered.

Yesterday the Canadian police placed Haas under arrest in Toronto.

There is no indication that Haas is being charged with the actual murder.—Reuter.

SOVIET SUBMARINE SHELLS

London, To-day.
A report from Stockholm states that a Soviet submarine shelled the German s.s. Pinnau, which was carrying coal to a Swedish port.

The submarine, says the report, suddenly emerged and fired 35 shells at the ship. There were no hits.

The sinking of two other German ships by Soviet warships is now admitted by Berlin. Discussions are now going on in Riga between the Russians and a Nazi commission.

It is also admitted in Berlin that the s.s. Oliva has been damaged by Soviet ships blockading the Finnish coast.—Reuter.

*** The Pinnau is a vessel of 1,198 tons, 250 feet long, owned by the Bugier Reederei and Bergungs A.G.; she is registered at Hamburg.

New York, To-day.
THE CRACK N.D.L. 32,000-TON liner, Columbus, the third biggest vessel of the German merchant fleet, elected to share the fate of the Admiral Graf Spee yesterday when she was intercepted by a British destroyer in the North Atlantic.

The liner is still afloat, a huge blazing mass, and American warships are near at hand ready to sink her if she should become a danger to navigation.

She was set on fire, either by bombs, or by the ignition of her huge cargo of petroleum, to evade capture, and some 400 survivors have been picked up by the U.S.S. Pascaloosa.

The American warship, in a report to the U.S.S. Texas, says that she is bringing the survivors into New York.

She came upon the scene of the burning Columbus at about 11 a.m. yesterday (E.S.T.) and found a British destroyer standing by. There was no indication of any un-neutral act and no firing of any kind was heard. The incident appears to have occurred just inside the American 300-mile neutral zone.

HUGE PETROL CARGO

It will be recalled that the giant German liner slipped out of Vera Cruz harbour carrying an enormous cargo of petroleum, though her clearance papers suggested that she was proceeding to Oslo, Norway, and it was evident that she intended to make a desperate attempt to break the Allied blockade.

Apparently British warships picked her up after leaving the Gulf of Mexico and dogged her to her doom.

NOT ATTACKED

There is no evidence that she was attacked. The British destroyer appears to have quietly trailed her and when her captain saw there was no hope of escape, he gave orders for her destruction.

The Columbus was built in 1924, was of 31,584 tons gross, was 728 feet long and was capable of 30 knots.—Reuter.

NAZI SHIP NEAR MUTINY ON THE GRAF SPEE

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

BUENOS AIRES, TO-DAY.
IT IS RUMoured THAT A HEATED DISCUSSION OCCURRED ON BOARD THE ADMIRAL GRAF SPEE WHEN THE CAPTAIN TOLD HIS OFFICERS OF HIS INTENTION TO SCUTTLE THE WARSHIP.

Several officers are reported to have declared in the presence of sailors that such an act was shameful and they would prefer to fight it out with the enemy.

The captain is reported to have lost his temper and to have shouted at his officers to keep quiet.—Havas.

LUXEMBURG PROPERTY HIT BY SHELL

Luxemburg, To-day.
A customs house at the town of Remich, on the south-east frontier, was hit by a shell early yesterday.

The shell did not explode, but passed through the building, penetrated the roofs of two houses and fell in the market place.

An official enquiry is being held.—Reuter.

TWO MORE U-BOATS DESTROYED

PARIS, TO-DAY.
THE NAVY MINISTER, M. CAMPINCHI, ANNOUNCED YESTERDAY THAT TWO U-BOATS WERE RECENTLY SUNK BY THE ALLIED NAVIES.

One of them was bagged by the French cruiser Sirocco.

This is the third U-boat sunk by the Sirocco.—Reuter.



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CANADIANS GIVEN GREAT WELCOME

London, To-day:

The arrival of the first Canadian Expeditionary Force has aroused great interest and the newspapers yesterday gave them a great deal of space.

The first news that the Canadians had arrived was given by Mr. Churchill in his broadcast. Even the people of the port at which they landed did not realise who they were until the men spelt out in unison "C-a-n-a-d-a" and then shouted "Canada!"

They were promptly given a warm welcome. Those on shore threw them packets of cigarettes, the Canadians replying with apples.

They were transferred to their base by train and marched through a quiet country town, headed by their band. They found their camp fitted with every amenity — including iron beds with mattresses, hot and cold water, showers, large mess rooms and up-to-date kitchens.

They have already named their camp — "Hore-Bellisha Palace!" — Reuter.

POLAND'S WAR EFFORT FOR ALLIES

LONDON, TO-DAY.

POLAND'S WAR EFFORTS IN THE ALLIED CAUSE WERE DISCUSSED YESTERDAY BY A MEMBER OF THE POLISH MILITARY MISSION TO BRITAIN.

An agreement had been reached with the British Government, he said, for units of the Polish Navy to operate with the Royal Navy "for the duration." They comprised destroyers and submarines and were manned by Poles.

Few Polish merchantships are now in enemy hands.

Polish land forces are now in training in France. — Reuter.

FIGHTING FOR TRUTH

LONDON, TO-DAY.

ENTERTAINING MEMBERS OF THE FOREIGN PRESS ASSOCIATION AT LUNCHEON, MR. EDWARD BURGIN, MINISTER OF SUPPLY, EVOKED ROUNDS OF APPLAUSE WHEN HE DECLARED "ALMOST ALL THE CIVILISED WORLD — WITH ONE SOLITARY EXCEPTION — IS REPRESENTED HERE TO-DAY."

Mr. Burgin added that the Allies were fighting to put truth back on its pedestal, and they might rest assured that every communique they received in Britain would be strictly factual.

Mr. Burgin delighted the cosmopolitan audience by speaking to them in French, German and Spanish. — Reuter.

SILVER CONTROL

New Delhi, To-day.

It is announced in the "Gazette" that a new rule under the Defence Act of India empowers the Government to impose on those authorised to import silver to British India such conditions that it may consider necessary regarding its use and disposal if the Government considers it expedient.

Similar power is conferred with regard to the reserve of the Bank of India. — Reuter.

BELGIUM AND HOLLAND

Brussels, To-day.

"An independent and neutral Holland is indispensable to Belgium's neutrality," declared M. Paul Spaak, the Premier, in a speech in the Chamber yesterday.

"It would be imprudent," M. Spaak added, "to determine now the attitude we would make if the situation in Holland changed, but it would be equally imprudent to state that a new situation would leave us indifferent." — Reuter.

NEW PRESIDENT OF PANAMA

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

Panama City, To-day.

Dr. Augusto Samuel Boyd, the first Vice-President, yesterday took the Oath before the Supreme Court upon assumption of the Presidency of Panama.

The Presidency has been vacant since the death of President Juan Demostenes Arosemena a few days ago. — Havas.

AIR WAR BEGINNING IN EARNEST

Stockholm, To-day.

The recent increase in air activities has prompted Berlin to believe that the air war is beginning in earnest and attempts will now be made by the German air force to show their capabilities of carrying out large-scale attacks, says the Berlin correspondent of the "Dagbladet."

German air force officials claim that German reconnaissance planes have obtained comprehensive aerial photographs both over Britain and France. — Reuter.

HOLLAND'S DEFENCES

The Hague, To-day.

The Prime Minister, Jonkheer de Geer, announced yesterday that almost 100,000,000 guilders had been subscribed by the public to the Netherlands defence loan issued on Monday.

This was in addition to 60,000,000 guilders subscribed by public corporations. — Reuter.

INTERNMENT OF GRAF SPEE CREW

Buenos Aires, To-day.

The Argentinian Government has decided to intern the officers and men of the Graf Spee who landed in Buenos Aires following the scuttling of the pocket battleship. Those who returned to Uruguay have already been interned. — Reuter.

SUPREME WAR COUNCIL SESSION

London, To-day.

AN OFFICIAL COMMUNIQUE issued from No. 10 Downing Street, states that a meeting of the Supreme War Council was held in Paris yesterday.

The Council sat throughout the morning.

M. Daladier, M. Champetier de Reis, General Gamelin and Admiral Darlan, who were accompanied by M. Leger, represented France.

Mr. Chamberlain, Lord Halifax and Lord Chatfield, who were accompanied by Sir Ronald Campbell, General Ironside and Sir Alexander Cadogan, represented Great Britain.

In welcoming the British representatives, M. Daladier congratulated Great Britain on the gallant and victorious action which had led to the destruction of the Admiral Graf Spee.

The Supreme War Council made a close study of the general situation and found that the British and French Governments were completely at one on all questions discussed.

The Council accordingly took such decisions as were required to make the best use of the means of action at the joint disposal of the two countries in the diplomatic and military spheres.

—British Wireless.

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

Paris, To-day.

It is learned that full agreement was reached at yesterday's Supreme War Council on the nature and extent of British and French moral and material aid to Finland.—Havas.

RAILWAYS FOR B.E.F.

London, To-day.

The Ministry of Supply which is responsible for providing the British Expeditionary Force in France with locomotives, rolling stock and materials for a permanent way, has placed orders for 240 freight tank engines, and for 10,000 twenty-ton covered goods wagons.

The engines and goods wagons are to be used overseas on certain sections of the French Railways operated by the British Expeditionary Force.

The cost will be about £8,000,000. In addition, approximately £1,750,000 worth of permanent way equipment and various mechanical handling plants for docks have been ordered making a total expenditure of about £9,750,000.—British Wireless.

GERMANY CENSORING OUTSIDE!

LONDON, TO-DAY.

THE GERMAN AUTHORITIES HAVE DEVISED A NEW METHOD OF PREVENTING NEWS ABOUT GERMANY REACHING THE OUTSIDE WORLD DESPITE THEIR BOAST OF NOT IMPOSING CENSORSHIP.

It is already known that neutral correspondents are liable to expulsion if they send out unfavourable news.

Now it is stated, they have been warned that if their colleagues in neutral countries outside Germany send home unfavourable news, the correspondent in Germany will be prevented from working.—Reuter.

CHANGES IN CHUNGSHAN

The Shikwan correspondent of the local "Ta Kung Pao" reported last night that the Kwangtung Provincial Government had relieved General Cheung Wai-cheung, Magistrate of Chung Shan District, of his post which has been taken over by General Wu Pei, Commander-in-chief of the Chung Shan Military forces.

SIGNIFICANT CHANGES FORESEEN

Stockholm, To-day.

The opinion is growing in Berlin that the Russo-Finnish war will shortly cause significant changes in the political position in Europe, says the Berlin representative of the "Nyheter."

The correspondent adds that Finland has been able to expose that both the Soviet and Germany are in an awkward position.

Germany is obliged to realise that nobody now fears her Russian ally, and even the economic support that Berlin anticipated from Moscow has hitherto proved non-existent.

Finland's opposition, too, has proved Soviet military aid to be an illusion.—Reuter.

BRITISH AIR SUPREMACY

London, To-day.

In connection with Sir Kingsley Wood's estimate that the Empire training scheme would put our air superiority beyond challenge, informed air circles here give interesting facts comparing the relative efficiency between the Allied and German air forces to-day.

They point out that not one single British fighter has been shot down in combat since the outbreak of war, while R.A.F. command aircraft have brought down nearly half the German bomber reconnaissance aircraft engaged by them during the first two active months of war.

During 51 raids over British land or sea in October and November, 21 German raiders were destroyed.

Of these the majority were seen to strike the ground or water, and it is known that many more failed to return to Germany.

In all these engagements only one British pilot has been wounded, and that slightly.—British Wireless.

BRITISH NAVY TASKS

London, To-day.

Recent news reveals the full extent of British naval power.

While fighting successful actions in the North Sea and Montevideo, the Navy was simultaneously engaged in the gigantic task of conveying the first contingent of Canadian forces across the Atlantic.

The successful performance of three such an arduous tasks over such an area sheds light on the foolish German boast that they control the North Sea and Atlantic.—Reuter.

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"HITLER SPEAKS"

By Dr. Rauschnig

HITLER THE ANTI-CHRIST

I remember in every detail the conversation to be recorded in this chapter. It made an indelible impression on me. From it dates my inner revulsion against National Socialism. For now I began to understand its true nature and aims.

"The religions are all alike," said Hitler, "no matter what they call themselves. They have no future—certainly none for the Germans. Fascism, if it likes, may come to terms with the Church. So shall I. Why not? That will not prevent me from tearing up Christianity root and branch, and annihilating it in Germany. The Italians are naive; they're quite capable of being heathens and Christians at the same time. The Italians and the French are essentially heathens. Their Christianity is only skin-deep. But the German is different. He is serious in everything he undertakes. He wants to be either a Christian or a heathen. He cannot be both. Besides, Mussolini will never make heroes of his Fascists. It doesn't matter there whether they're Christians or heathens. Leave the hair-splitting to others. Whether it's the Old Testament or the New, or simply the sayings of Jesus—it's all the same old Jewish swindle. It will not make us free. A German Church, a German Christianity, is distortion. One is either a German or a Christian. You cannot be both."

Streicher or Goebbels, who were both in the room, made some remark which I did not catch—a question perhaps.

"What's to be done?" Hitler replied. "I will tell you: we must prevent the churches from doing anything but what they are doing now, that is, losing ground day by day. Do you really believe the masses will ever be Christian again? Nonsense! Never again. That tale is finished. No one will listen to it again. But we can hasten matters. The parsons will be made to dig their own graves. They will betray their God to us. They will betray anything for the sake of their miserable little jobs and incomes."

"Why should we have a uniform religion, a German Church independent of Rome? Don't you see that that's all obsolete? German Christians, German Church, Christians freed from Rome—old stuff! I know perfectly well what is coming, and we shall take care of it all in good time. Without a religion of its own, the German people has no permanence. What this religion will be we do not yet know. We feel it, but that is not enough."

"No," he replied to a question, "these professors and mystery-men who want to found Nordic religions merely get in my way. Why do I tolerate them? Because they help to disintegrate, which is all we can do at the moment. They cause unrest. And all unrest is creative. It has no value in itself, but let it run its course. They do their share, and the priests do theirs. We shall compel them to destroy their religions from within by setting aside all authority and reducing everything to pale, meaningless talk. Shall we succeed? Certainly and irresistibly."

The conversation took a quieter turn. Goebbels sat down at our table, and Hanfstaengl came from the room to join us. The two Bavarian leaders related a few cases of unpromising resistance from the Bavarian Catholic Church.

"Yes," Hitler agreed, "the Catholic Church is a really big thing. Why, what an organisation! It's something to have lasted nearly two thousand years! We must learn from it. Astuteness and knowledge of human nature are behind it. Catholic priests know where the shoe pinches. But their day is done, and they know it. They are far too intelligent not to see that, and to enter upon a hopeless battle. But if they do, I shall certainly not make martyrs of them. We shall brand them as ordinary criminals. I shall tear the mask of honesty from their faces. And if that is not enough, I shall make them appear ridiculous and contemptible. I shall order films to be made about them. We shall show the history of the monks on the cinema. Let the whole mass of nonsense, selfishness, repression and deceit be revealed: how they drained the money out of the country, how they haggled with the Jews for the world, how they committed incest. We shall make it so thrilling that everyone will want to see it. There will be queues outside the cinemas. And if the pious burghers find the hair rising on their heads in horror, so much the better. The young people will accept it—the young people and the masses. I can do without the others."

"I promise you," he concluded, "that if I wished to, I could destroy the Church in a few years; it is hollow and rotten and false through and through. One push and the whole structure would collapse. We should trap the priests by their notorious greed and self-indulgence. We shall thus be able to settle everything with them in perfect peace and harmony. I shall give them a few years' reprieve. Why should we quarrel? They will swallow anything in order to keep their material advantages. Matters will never come to a head. They will recognise a firm will, and we need only show them once or twice who is the master. Then they will know which way the wind blows. They are no fools. The Church was something really big. Now we're its heirs. We, too, are a Church. Its day has gone. It will not fight. I'm quite satisfied. As long as youth follows me, I don't mind if the old people limp to the confessional. But young ones—they will be different. I guarantee that."

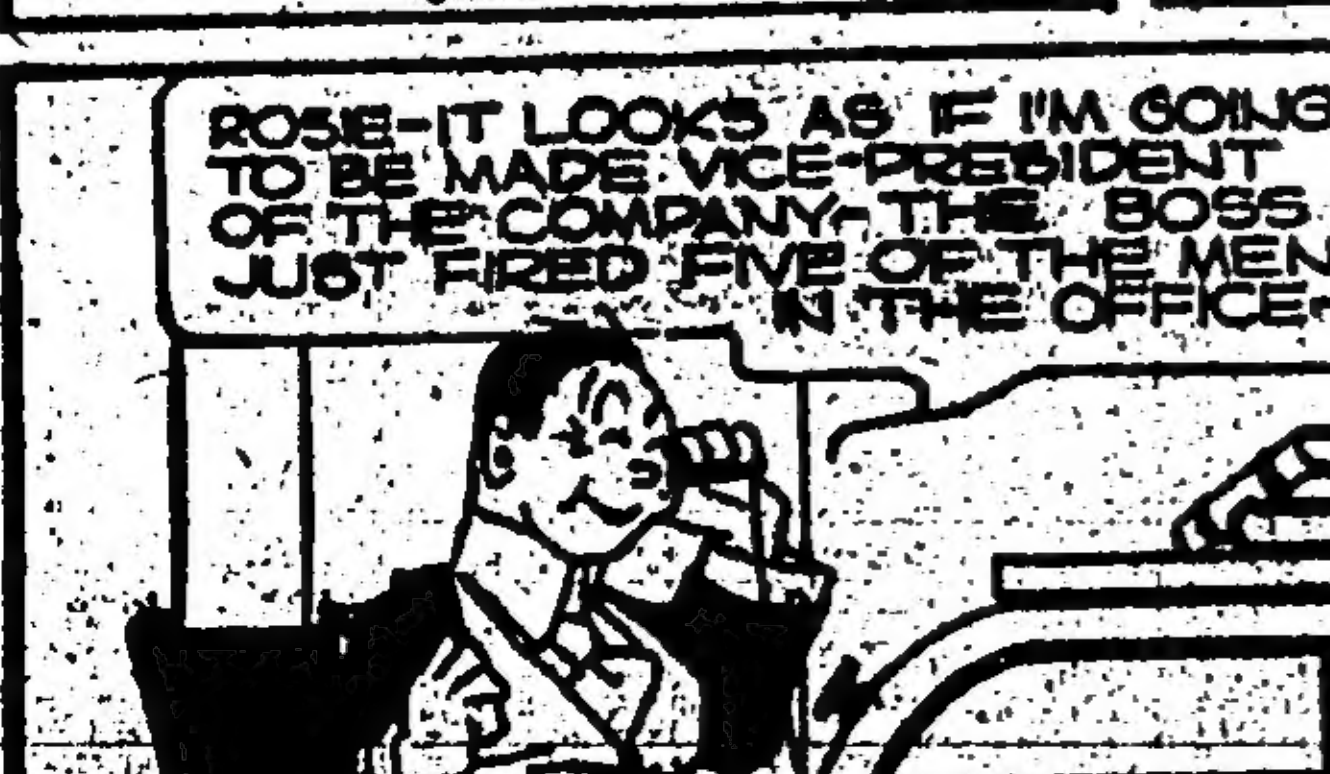
At the time, I regarded this whole speech as sheer braggadocio, and as a concession to the pornographic Streicher. Nevertheless, it shook me to the depths. Later I was to remember it many times.

I heard little more after this. The only thing that interested me further was the Fuehrer's ostentatious contempt for the Protestant Church. Hitler by no means shared the hopes and desires of many militant, anti-Rome Protestants, who thought to shatter the Roman Church with the aid of

(Continued on Page 11)

**ROSIE'S
BEAU-**

BY
GEO. McMANUS



ROSIE—IT LOOKS AS IF I'M GOING TO BE MADE VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE COMPANY—THE BOSS JUST FIRED FIVE OF THE MEN IN THE OFFICE.



I'M FIRED—

SO AM I—SERVES ME RIGHT FOR WORKING SO HARD—

RAT—I AM FIRED—

AFTER ALL I HAVE DONE FOR THE BOSS—I'M FIRED—

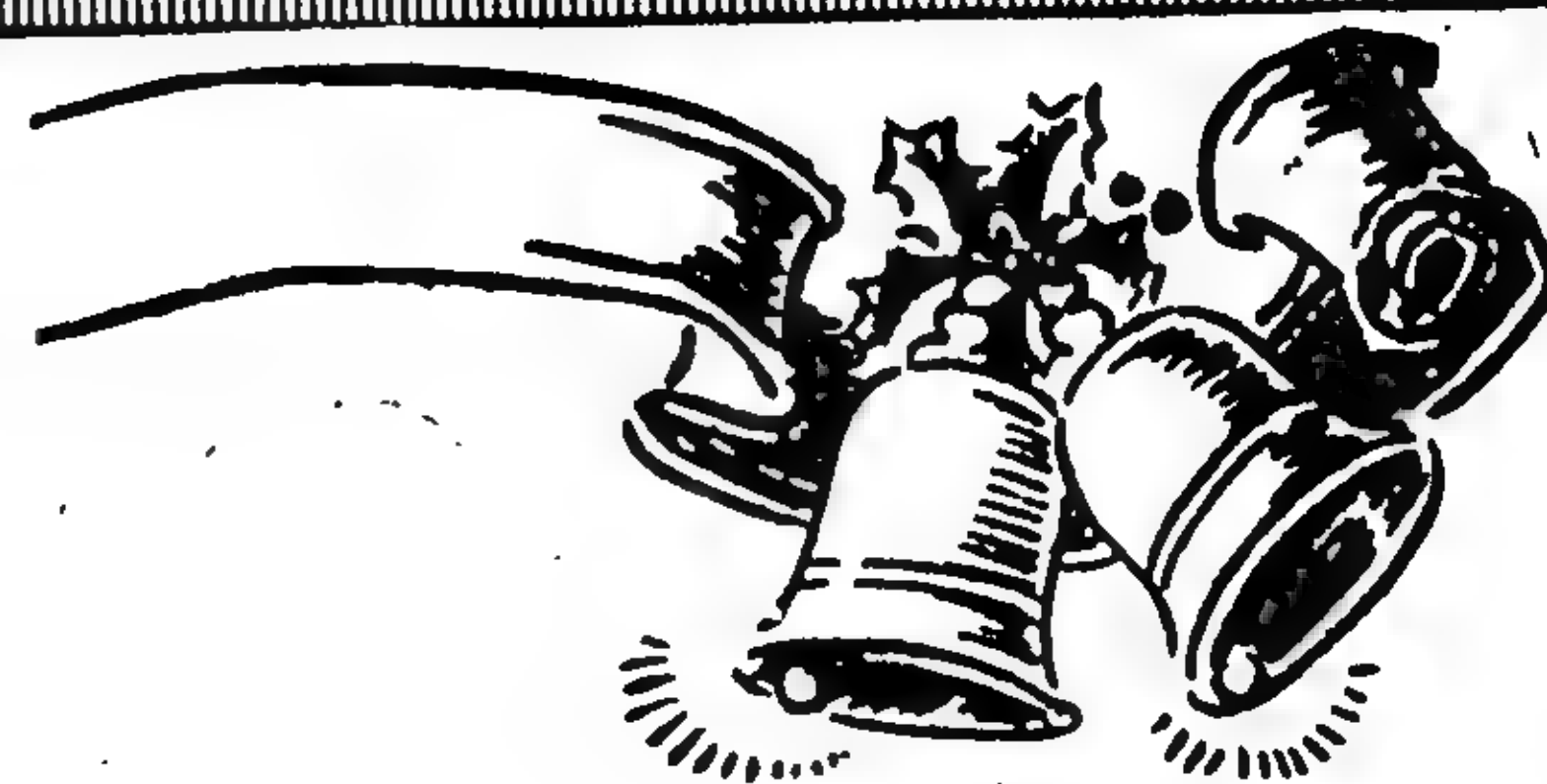
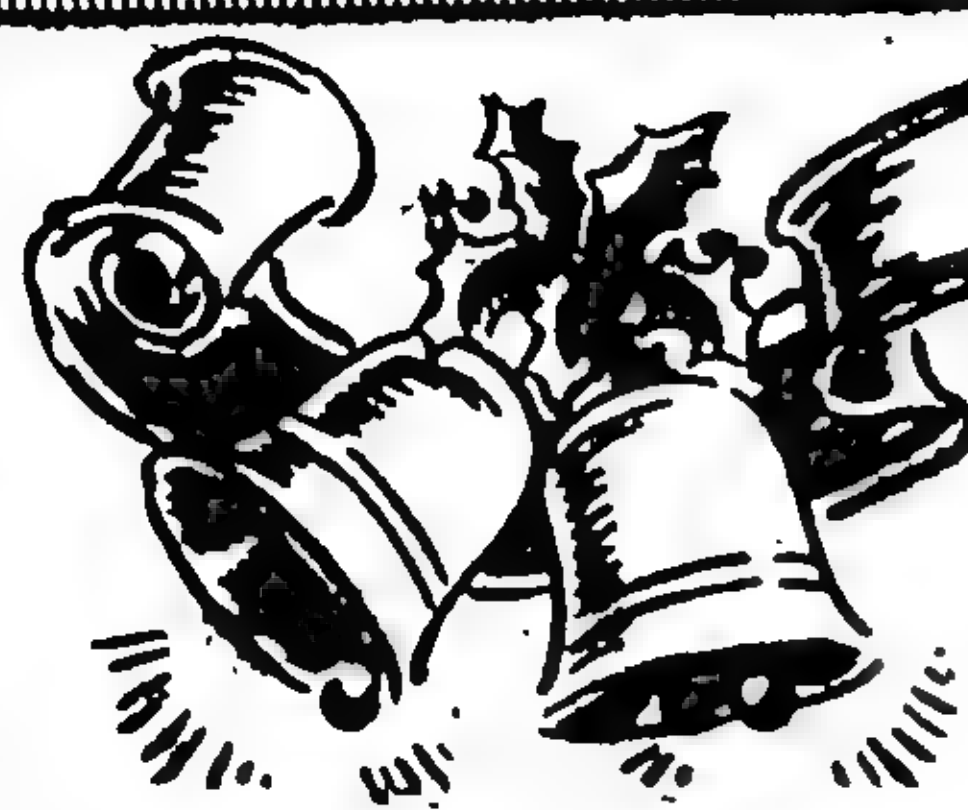
I'VE GOT ONE MORE TO GIVE OUT—IT'S FOR THE PHONE OPERATOR—

AH—NONE FOR ME—

OH—ARCHIE—ISN'T IT WONDERFUL? YOUR BOSS KNOWS WHAT YOU'RE CAPABLE OF—THAT FIRM—

I FORGOT THAT ONE FOR YOU—IT WAS HIDDEN UNDER A BOOK ON MY DESK—BYE-BYE—

I'M FIRED—



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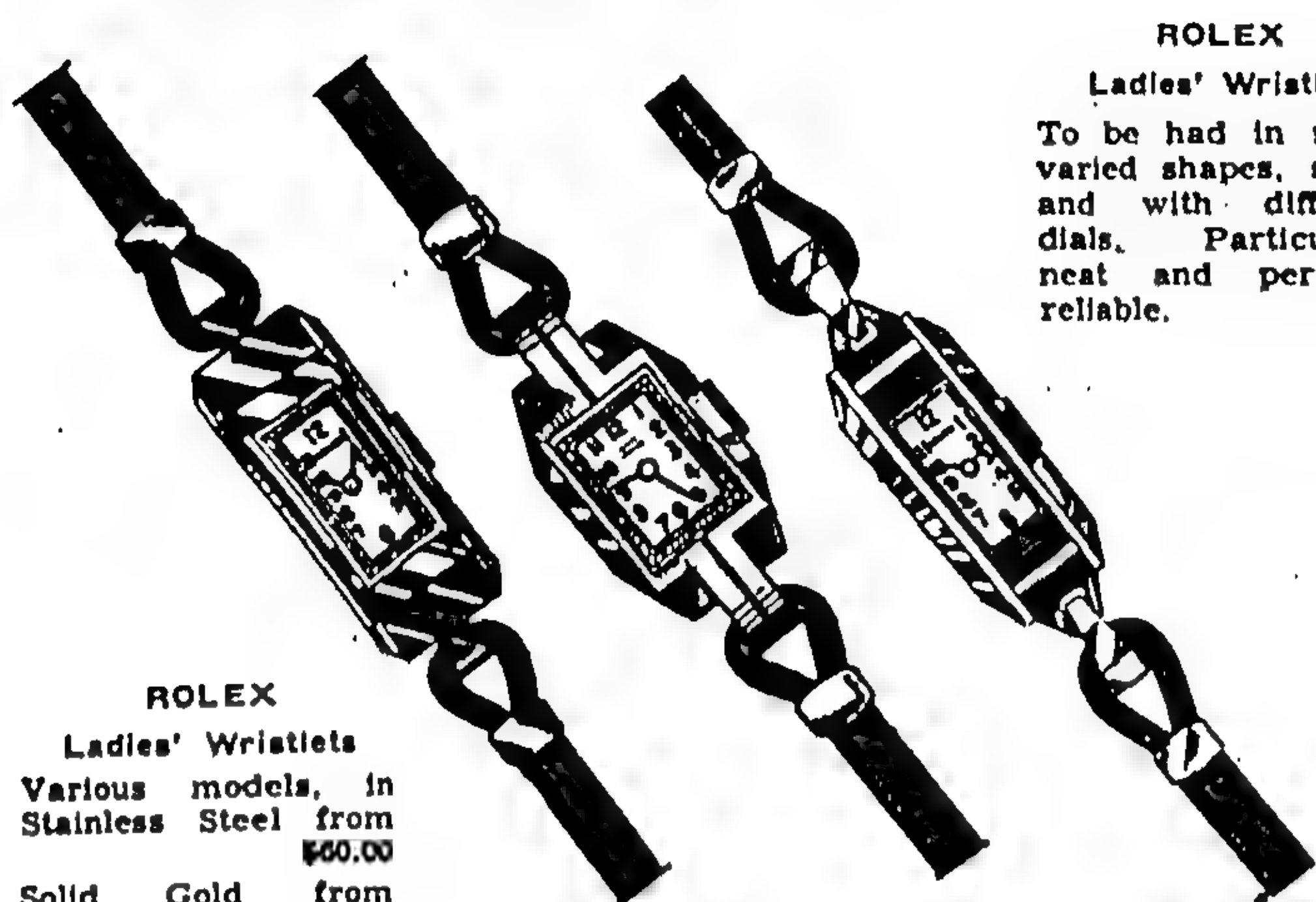
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ART And The NATIVITY

THE Christian faith brought pity and tenderness into the harsh Roman world precisely because it appealed to all kindly men and women by emphasising the Mother and Child ideal.

The legend of the Saviour's birth in humble surroundings sublimated the experience of innumerable poor and anonymous mothers and sustained them spiritually in the mysteries of life and death and the hereafter.

And since most religions must have their interpreters in art, Christianity inspired from early times the painter and sculptor. If we except the Byzantine School, little remains to us of Christian art until we reach the great Italian tradition.

AGE OF SAINTS

The truth of Christianity reached its highest power in the 13th century. It was indeed the age of saints and angels. St. Francis, St. Thomas, and St. Dominic were living personalities, and their lives fully expressed the divine message of Christ.

People felt as never before or since the sacred meaning of the New Testament, and as Prof. Venturi says, "Every act of man's life, economic, political, moral, intellectual, and artistic was done in the name of God."

With such devotional unanimity it is not surprising that the painters responded and vied with one another to illuminate their faith.

If we study closely such a picture as Cimabue's Virgin and Child we are conscious of the deep spiritual convictions of the artist as well as his wish to appeal to human emotions. In contemplating this Madonna seated upon a jewelled throne, her hand lightly touching the hand of the child we can understand something of the power of religion over the popular mind of the 13th century.

As the years pass and the artists become more curious about form and more dextrous in expressing it we find a host of painters enjoying the patronage of Church and court, and filling them with frescoes and pictures of varying genius. We proceed from Cimabue and Giotto towards the great Renaissance, the new movement in life and art which had a scientific rather than a spiritual basis.

FAMOUS MADONNAS

The study of anatomy and perspective, the resuscitation of Greek and Latin culture, gave art a different feeling. Technique of drawing, painting, and colour are employed more realistically. The spiritual quality of the Primitives loses its way in the humanism of the 15th and 16th centuries.

The Madonnas of Michelangelo, Raphael, Leonardo, Botticelli, and Titian are closer to the life of this world than those of the 13th century. They are idealisations of

human beauty of certain types of lovely women to be seen even today by the traveller in Italy.

With the decline of the Renaissance great painters devoted to religious subjects become fewer and fewer, but here and there an artist like Veronese paints a masterly work, thereby adding his version to the many styles in the tradition.

Coming to the 19th century, one of the most moving pictures of the nativity idea is that by Segantini entitled "The Two Mothers." A very human picture, it shows a woman with an infant in a stable. She is bending over her child in the light of a lantern. Tethered to its stall is a cow with its newborn calf lying in the straw.

Though completely realistic, the whole painting is memorably religious in feeling; and there is no doubt that the artist had in his mind the story of the birth of Christ in the manger. The spiritual, human and animal worlds are poetically brought together in this vigorous rendering of the eternal theme.

Subtleties of technique and feeling on the part of artists are matters rather for the critic and student of painting. Treatment of the Madonna and Child must change according to time, social conditions and aesthetic fashion, though conforming in general to the religious story.

SYMBOL OF FAITH

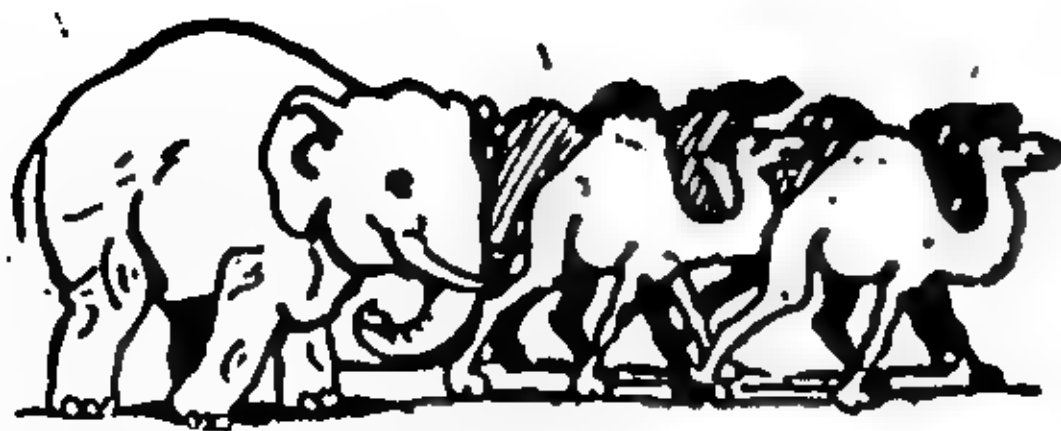
To the true believer, be he rich or poor, peasant or prince, any representation of the Holy Mother and Child is a symbol of Faith, and whether the image is a simple modern wood-cut by an unknown artist or the work of a great master the spiritual message is the same to him.

Many of us will receive Christmas time some representation of the divine miracle enacted nearly two thousands years ago. If we are artists or have a knowledge of past achievements in paintings, we may discuss the qualities of style and emotion inherent in the picture.

Our first sentiment, however, will be one of reverence for the beauty and continuity of Christianity even in this intensely materialistic age. Nor can we be sceptical as to the fate of religion when we remember the countless generations of believers and the innumerable artists, even to the latest designer of the Christmas card in our hands, who have attempted to visualise and limn the holiest of mothers and the holiest of babies.

Religion has always survived materialism and the efforts of evil men and unimaginative systems to suppress it; and Christianity because of the very beauty and tenderness of the Mother and Child ideal will ever be a refuge for the hearts of men and women.

By John
ANDREWS



Five Camels and an Elephant

EXCEPT in Russia, the Christmas festival is celebrated throughout the civilized world—the great British Empire, Spain, Italy, France, Germany and America. All the world will this week be busy spending gigantic sums of money. Almost a million pounds a minute is spent in Europe alone.

All countries are closer together in their friendship at Christmas. The hand of brotherhood meets other hands across the seas. Good-will reigns, and in the yule-log's flames enmities are burnt, and wrongs and quarrels are forgotten; wine bubbles in the wassail bowl, and is quaffed amid much merriment, drowning feuds and hatred.

STRANGE GIFTS

England for many centuries has been regarded with friendship by



Peacock was an indispensable item.

other countries. King James once received from the King of Spain an amazing gift—five camels and an elephant! Foresight had been exercised in sending this Christmas gift, for the king had a private menagerie of his own—the Royal Zoological Gardens at St. James's Park.

But the Exchequer was low. "The royal present will cost as much to maintain as would a garrison of men!" said the Lord Treasurer. However, the King cared not for the words of office; he gave definite orders for the camels to be regularly grazed and for them to be screened from "the vulgar gaze." The elephant, much liked

MILLIONS In Presents

By Michael Mackenna

and appreciated by King James, was given wine, and not water, to drink.

This is not the only time that an elephant was given as a Christmas present to royalty. Edward I lived at the height of present giving among rich and poor, and on Christmas morning of one year accepted an elephant from the King of France—a strange animal to English people who had never seen anything like it in the flesh before. The London sheriffs were at once ordered to erect a building 40ft. long by 20ft. wide for the huge quadruped.

At this time, too, the peacock was an indispensable item on the Christmas bill-of-fare, and these beautiful birds were often given as presents. Edward II was an epicurean of delicate taste, and his love of good food was anticipated by his people when, on the first Christmas morning after being crowned, he was presented with fourteen of these gloriously plumaged birds for pies.

THE FIRST CHRISTMAS

These were first skinned, and after various culinary preparations, were made into huge pies, then baked, and the head placed at one side, and the plumage of the tail on the other. In this manner, the pies were served, with the boar's head on a salver preceding them.



Ancient Britons exchanged gifts.

Minstrels provided music and sang carols throughout the meal.

At the present time as much as ten to fifteen millions pounds are withdrawn from banks by Christmas shoppers, and shopping goes on right from the first days of November until the last-minute buyers of Christmas Eve. More than twenty million pounds changed hands in London during the last seven days of shopping.

When there was plenty of money about in 1927, forty million pounds were spent in London on presents! Great Britain spent double that, all told. In America, where present-giving is now very popular, it has



Toys for the son and heir.

been averaged that there is a yearly spending on presents of around forty millions.

Present-giving is one of the happiest of the season's customs. Of course it dates from the earliest times. Did not the Wise Men present gifts of myrrh, frankincense, and gold to the newly-born King? Undoubtedly that is as far back as we can trace the custom.

It is almost certain that the ancient Britons, and ancient peoples of other countries, exchanged gifts. Back in Norman times the people gave presents to their kings. It is well-known that subjects of Gloucester sent year by year a present to the reigning monarch. A most elaborately-made lamprey pie was sent to the reigning king. This continued for centuries, until the practice was discontinued at the beginning of the 18th century.



Queen was snowed under with them

In 1895, Queen Victoria was sent a Christmas gift of a huge pie and silver skewers, a revival of the old custom, but it did not continue.

COAT FOR WIFE, £6,000

One London store had over a million shoppers in four days. Purse-strings are loosened by Christmas, and one millionaire spends a fortune in a present—he pays £6,000 for a coat for his wife. Another buys a huge cracker in which there is a winding staircase; at intervals shelves contain presents, amounting to many thousands of pounds, for his guests. Another shopper pays a small fortune for two or three toys for his fortunate son and heir.

This practice of present-giving is inborn in us all of the British Commonwealth, and of the civilized world in general. At the time of the Stuarts, in the 16th century, it was just as much to the fore. Little Princess Elizabeth received from the Mayor of Coventry two "fat oxen."

Children, even in these days of old, received many presents. Edward IV gave his son a horse. The little daughter of Henry VIII was presented at Christmas with a cup of gold by the Italian Cardinal.

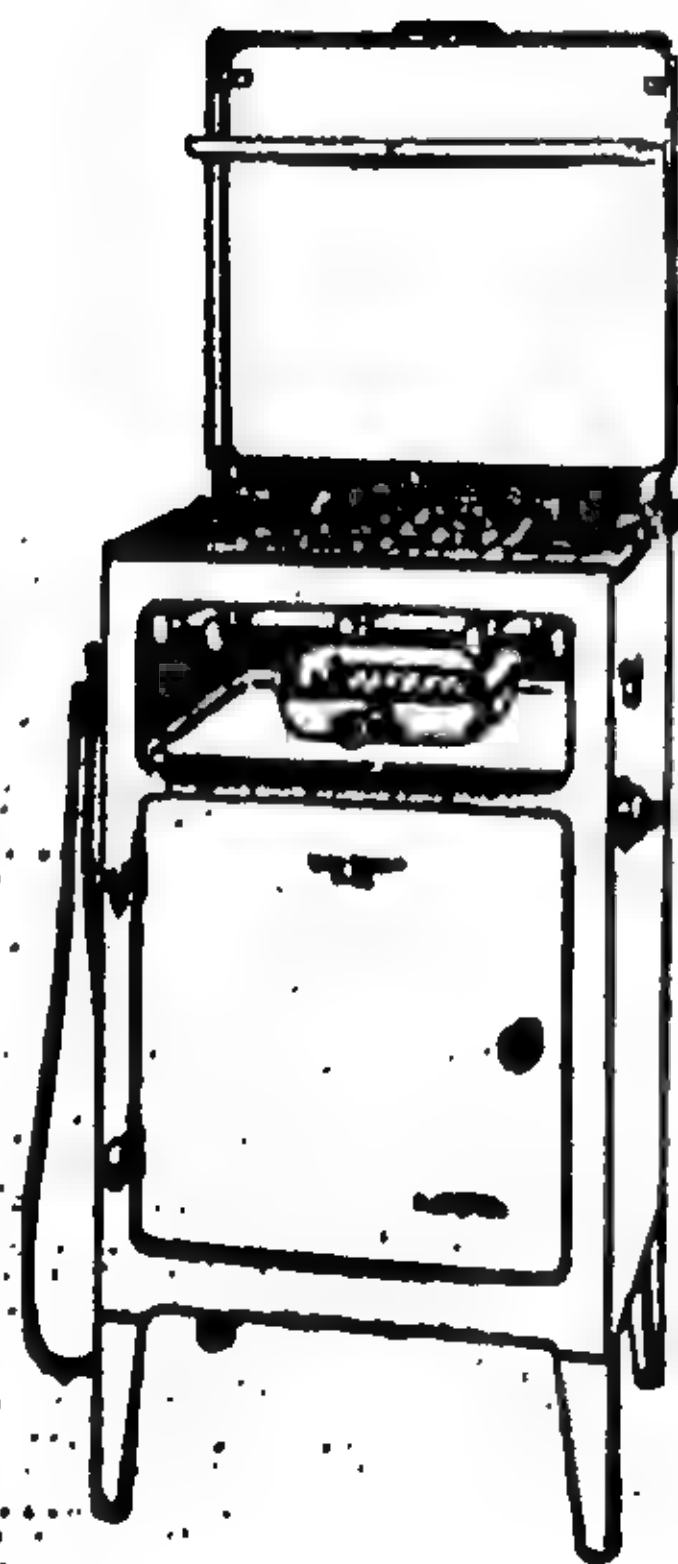
When the ill-fated Queen Mary was a little girl, she was the recipient of many presents, and when on the throne was literally snowed under with them. On the first Christmas she was given two fat oxen, many barrels of figs and the like, cakes, jellies, gold and silver ornaments!

After monarchies became private institutions little was heard of presents for royalty, but Christmas presents and "boxes" continued as an integral part of the celebrations, and are more in evidence this Christmas perhaps than ever before.

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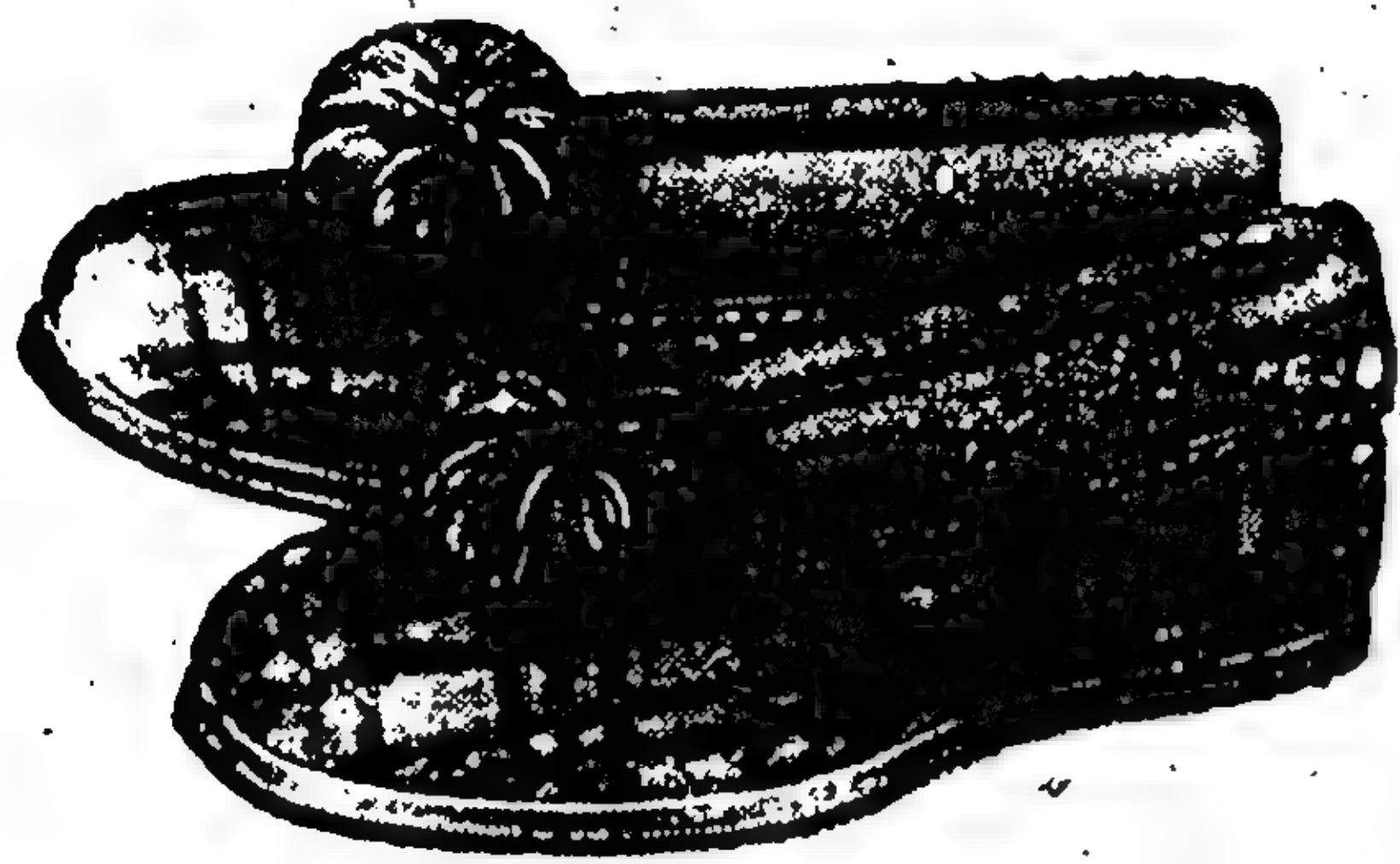


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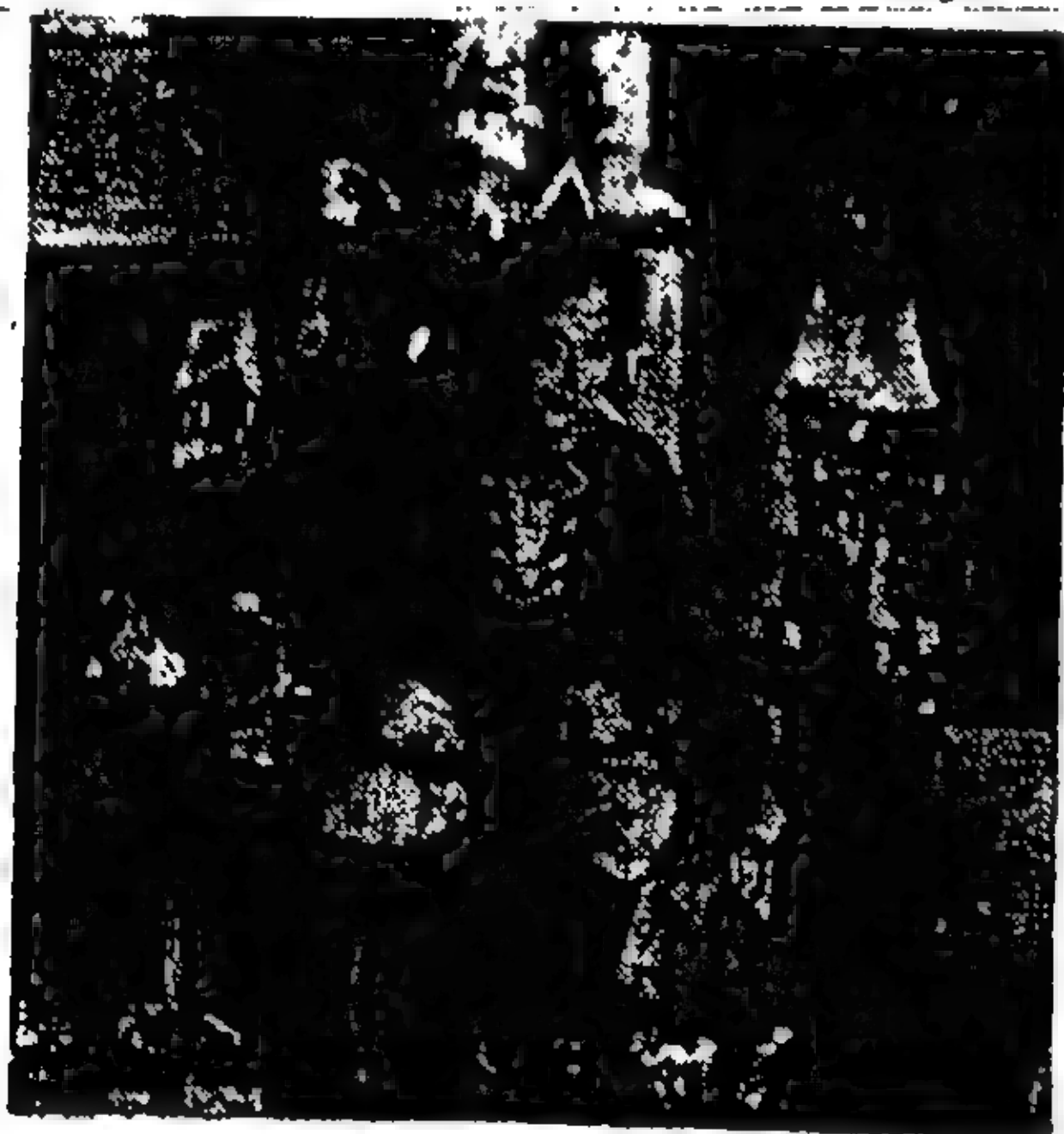
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THE CHRISTMAS STORE

Mystery of the Star of Bethlehem

AT last astronomers believe they may have a scientific explanation to augment the biblical significance given to the Star of Bethlehem.

Down through the centuries, as man has added to his knowledge of the world in which he lives, scientists have indicated that natural causes were, perhaps, behind some of the most significant and phenomenal manifestations recorded in biblical history.

Now, from Palomar mountain in California and one of the greatest of all astronomical observatories, some discoveries which indicate that the Star of Bethlehem may have been what is called a "nova"—literally an exploding star.

Of course the truth and accuracy of the biblical account of the Star of Bethlehem would in no wise be affected whether or not the star were a nova.

We know it was a star of great brilliance and beauty. But for centuries astronomers have striven to learn what natural causes could have operated to give it that brilliance, apart from its prophetic association with the birth of Jesus Christ.

Novae are well known astronomical fireworks. Indeed, they have been known since ancient times, as is shown by the records of Hipparchus Greek astronomer, 160-105 B.C. who, about 110 B.C., made a list of stars he could see, 1030 in number, so that he could be certain, by counting later, what stars were permanent and which were novae.

BRIGHT STARS

Of course, in those early days before the telescope was invented and astronomical knowledge widely diffused, only really brilliant novae could be seen and then probably, no one would realise that a bright star, suddenly appearing and then fading away, was really a nova. Thus, if a nova did appear 1939 years ago, and was seen over Bethlehem, as the Bible states, then it is possible that the Star of Bethlehem was a nova—that no one recognised.

No records of novae after Hipparchus' time exist, however, until 572 when the Italian, Tycho Brahe recognised one. The next one was reported in 1604 by the German, Kepler. This nova was the brightest ever recorded, for it blazed so brightly that it was visible during the daylight hours.

If the Star of Bethlehem was such a super-nova, its brilliance would undoubtedly have startled the simple shepherd folk of the hills of Palestine, as the Bible reports.

And it is also possible that its brilliance might have been great enough to attract attention out of the host of stars in the sky (the stars all seem very large and bright in the dry air over Palestine) for just a single night and perhaps for just a few hours. Modern telescopes could have followed the nova of Bethlehem for months afterwards as it faded, but the unaided eye could only have seen it at its moment of greatest brilliance.

CLIMAX OF FLAME

Unfortunately we can never know whether or not the Star of Bethlehem was a nova but, thanks to the development of modern instruments it will not be much longer before the mystery of the novae are solved. And a mystery they are at the present time.

After the climax of flame and fire is reached, the nova starts to fade. Perhaps its glow can be traced, like a dying ember from a wood fire, for a month or more by means of telescopes. Eventually, however, the star drops from sight completely and so far as we on earth are concerned, it is gone. However, indications exist that once every few million years, the

star bursts into glory once more, perhaps repeating this behaviour several times.

So violent is the speed with which the stars race and so remote in space are they located, that astronomers have had little time or opportunity to watch the development of novae and thus reach out across the depths of space and extract their secrets. What happens to a star when it becomes a nova is something like this.

An ordinary star suddenly "blows up." Precisely what sets off the explosion no one knows. It used to be assumed that the fire and flames were the result of two stars coming into collision. That idea was dropped when it was realised that novae were more numerous than they possibly could be if stellar collisions were responsible—for the chances of a collision of two stars, are impossible small.

Lately, an atomic explosion theory has been advanced. Apparently the star in its life history reaches a condition at which the atoms comprising its substance suddenly disintegrate. Here on earth, it has just been discovered, we have a form of uranium, known

By WINTHROP
THORNTON

as 235, which would cause the earth to burst like a balloon touched by a match; if it ever accumulated in any quantity. Luckily, although ordinary uranium is abundant enough to destroy the earth in a twinkling, the 235 isotope of the common metal does not exist in any greater amount than 1 to 100 of the true metal itself. Thus any activity by uranium 235 is quickly smothered by the heavier forms of uranium, such as 238, which is the most abundant, luckily for the earth's well being, most stable form.

If a star should, however, have much of its uranium 239 changed to 235, then that star would certainly blow up—for a grain of uranium 235 no larger than a pea could blast a hole in solid rock 100 miles in diameter.

Thus it seems likely that the bursting of dead stars into new life is an explosion caused by atomic disintegration. And it is a real explosion, too—a stupendous disintegration. For example, Nova Pictoris, a nova found in 1925, swelled itself on its diameter at the rate of about a million miles each hour, for some 24 hours.

A RACING SKIN

When this explosion occurs in a nova, the mass of its once solid matter travels out into space as a hollow sphere—an ever expanding shell. For days this racing skin speeds out in all directions, thus causing the nova to grow hundreds of thousands of times larger and proportionately brighter. Then, after expanding to reach a size perhaps 300,000 times that of our own sun, the shell of the nova bursts apart. A great flame of brilliant light appears as the inner, white-hot core or the blazing star is thus made visible. This is the climax of the nova—such a climax as may have occurred to a nova 1939 years ago over Bethlehem.

After this burst of glory, the gravity of the star-core asserts itself and the atoms of incandescent matter, blown out into space by the explosion, fall back in upon the star. Gradually the snow-drifts of fire accumulate upon the star and eventually it regains practically all its substance and starts cooling back to normal. Gradually the heat decreases and the light fades. Eventually, within a month or two, the star is back to normal.

OUR CHRISTMAS TREE

SOMETHING FOR EVERYBODY

CHRISTMAS always brings with it an air of expectancy and surprise. This is the time when parties and friendly gatherings are the order of the day, a time, too, when new suggestions for "something different to do" are eagerly received.

Have you ever noticed how a nicely turned trick, or even a simple story well told, can fill a moment when a small party may, from lack of ideas, lose its happy-go-lucky spirit?

Here, then, is a programme which has variety as its keynote. Puzzles have been included, so if you have a pencil handy here is your chance to see how quickly you can jot down the answers.

Most people are surprised and amused at the following trick called

BLOW IT IN

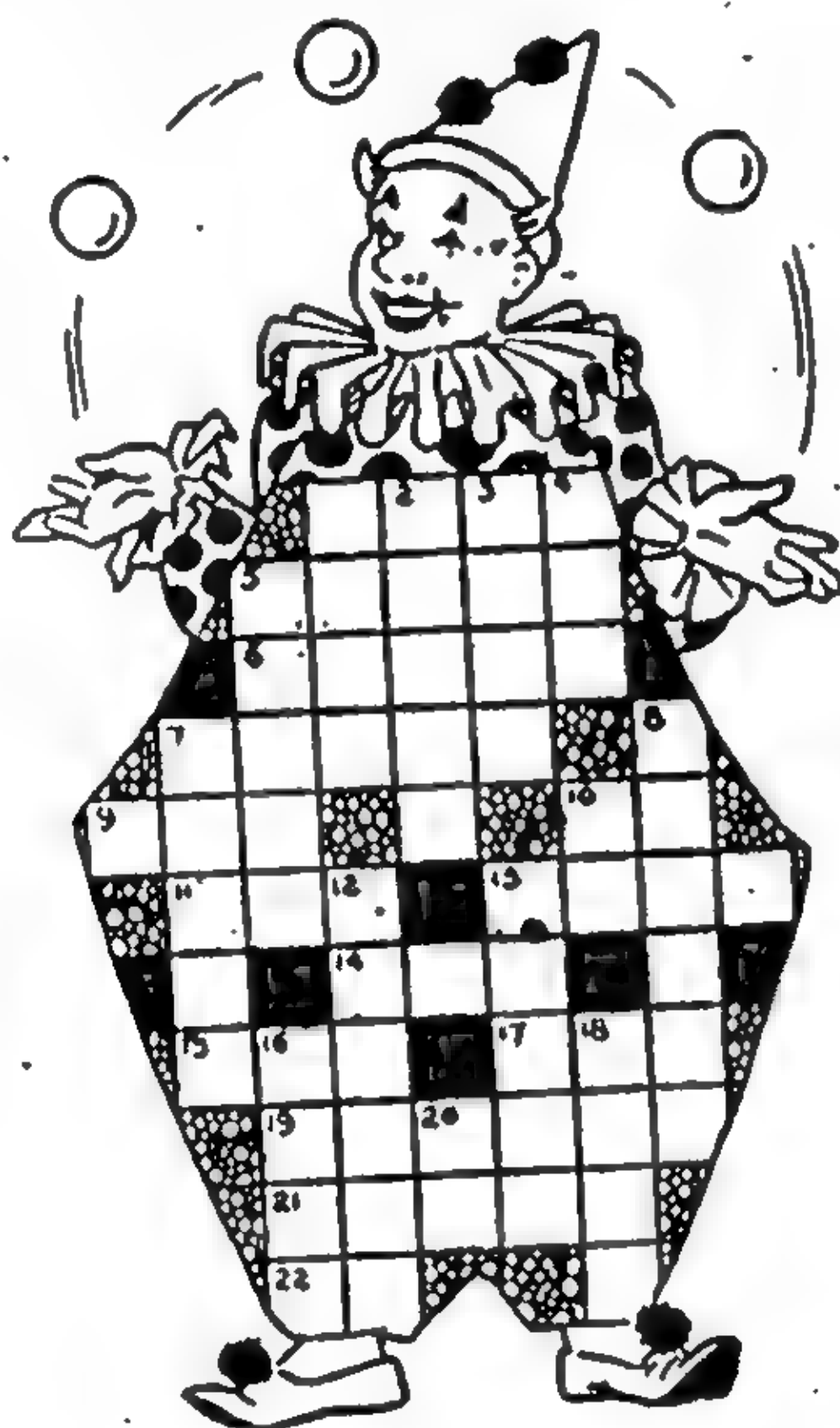
An empty wine bottle and a cork slightly smaller than the original one are the only two things



you need. Hold the bottle in a horizontal position and place the cork just within the neck of it. Now ask someone to blow the cork into the bottle. It sounds too easy, doesn't it? But if you rehearse the trick yourself beforehand you will find that when you blow, the cork, instead of flying into the bottle, comes out quickly. Blow still harder and the cork may give you a tap on the nose! You see, it is the compression of the air made inside the bottle when you blow, which causes it to be forced out towards you.

JUGGLE WITH WORDS

Five minutes is the time allowed for you to solve the



CLOWN CROSSWORD

Clues
Across

1. Christmas.
5. Christmas decoration.
6. Aromatic plant.
7. Sifter.
9. Everyone.
10. Conjunction.
11. Well-known animal.
13. Masticate.
14. Meadow.
15. Part of foot.
17. Outer edge.
19. Turning points.
21. Nimble.
22. Left Hand, (abbr.)

Down

1. Not one.
2. Evergreen tree.
3. Otherwise.
4. Solution of alkali.
5. Salutes.
7. Slope.
10. May these be pleasant.
10. Exclamation.
12. Rides well over snow.
13. Sung at Christmas time.
16. Precious stone.
18. Separate article.
20. Violet (abbr.).

A CHRISTMAS STORY

The Lucky Fire

"Did you get it all right, Pete?" asked Jenny Davis anxiously as her brother quietly opened the attic room door.

"Yes," was the low reply, "and what a beauty it is!"

A hurried unwrapping of a bulky parcel showed "it" to be a fine blue vase ornamented with gold scrolls.

The shopman said that he would put the pipe away," remarked Peter as he blew on his fingers to warm them, "so we will have both presents in time for Christmas after all."

"But we have only one and sixpence, and it costs two shillings."

"I'm not quite positive, but I think there is twopence in my grey coat. Wait here until I come back."

As Peter quietly opened the door of the attic a shrill wind tore round the house, making the



candle in the room flicker rapidly.

The twins had secretly been saving up for weeks now to buy a Christmas present for their father and mother, and it was only with great sacrifice they had managed to get the vase because the Davis family were very poor.

Things had not always been like this, for the twins' mother often told them of the place they had

(Continued on Page 6)



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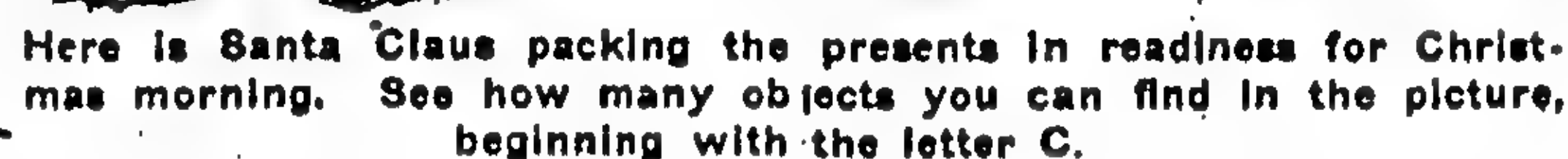
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(Continued from Page 5)

And that was the beginning of such a hubbub and uproar. Luckily Jenny's father was at home, and thanks to his quick action the fire off, and now they were poorer than



Feeling herself to be the cause of all the trouble Jenny could not be consoled. Christmas only five days

so that the "feet" of the pegs will fit in, see Fig. I. Score number

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The Brass Handle Mystery

NO man who sails deep waters can ever be sure that disaster will not overtake him. From time immemorial the Seven Seas have called upon men and ships to test their strength and steel against the might of wind and water. In the case of the Airdgarth, there was something else which might have been blamed.

A ship with a woman on board, so runs ancient legend, is a ship courting peril and inviting disaster. There are deep-sea men who even nowadays will not walk the deck of a steamer which carries a woman. Old-fashioned superstition it may be, yet the fact remains that it is acknowledged by most old shellbacks. And when that particular hoodoo happens to be lifeless . . . oh, well—let's get down to real facts.

"You'll need to keep a sharp look-out for the inn, sir," warned the A.A. motor patrol. "It's about half a mile ahead on the right-hand side. You can't miss it, with its big model of a ship. I know the folks'll make you and the lady comfortable. Good-night, sir—and thank you."

Trevor let in the clutch and the car crawled along the country road. Judy snuggled closer at her husband's side, thankful that the short halt had not allowed overmuch of the dense fog to penetrate. Her square-shouldered, sun-bronzed husband had been unexpectedly granted leave from his destroyer, and they were celebrating a second honeymoon by taking a cruising Christmas, driving leisurely through Sussex, Hampshire and Dorset into Devon, before returning to London.

At the western extremity of the New Forest they had struck a dense fog bank, and on the recommendation of the road scout decided to call it a day at "The Port of the Seven Seas," a centuries-old hostelry overlooking the ancient harbour.

A trim little countrywoman prepared the table and served the sort of meal Trevor had many times dreamed about, but seldom eaten. For half-an-hour after the table had been cleared, and with only the light from the flaming logs to illuminate the oak-beamed

room, Trevor smoked a peaceful pipe, while Judy, curled up on the rug, enjoyed an after-dinner cigarette. A deferential knock at the door jerked them back into the world from their reveries. Trevor called a cheery: "Come in!" and then proceeded very contentedly to assure their host there was nothing more they wanted.

Ducking beneath the beams from his angular six feet, the innkeeper grinned in a manner that made them feel content, and prepared to charge an old bruyere pipe from a roll of thick twist. Trevor offered a match:

"Quaint old place you've got here. Any sort of—er—history attached to it?"

A pair of shrewd eyes fixed a very blue gaze innocently on Judy. "Ma'am," he appealed. "Your gentleman asks me if there's history about th' old place. There, is, ma'am. There's—um—ghosts, 'beggin' y'r pardon. They don't worry me nor th' missus, though some visitors've told us they've heard queer whisperin's a-goin' on in th' night, as it were. But I always makes a point of sayin' ghosts can't hurt nobody, least-aways providin' they don't hurt th' ghosts. After more'n twenty-five years sea-goin', I don't reckon to lose none of my sleep a 'worryin' about whisperin's an' shufflin's that, no doubt, is but th' old house itself and not ghosts at all!"

Rightly speakin', ma'am (he said), there's supposed to be two ghosts in th' old house, though I've never seen but one of 'em; an' she as pretty and harmless a girl as I'd meet in a month of Sundays. It were like this:

She were wed to a shipmate of mine, though I were but a boy at th' time. If there were ever a scratch crew signed on under the Red Duster, the old Airdgarth carried it. She were a foul old tub, guaranteed to turn th' toughest deck hand, or th' greenest pier-head jump for ever ag'inst th' seas.

When I joined her on that pertikler v'yage she carried her usual crew. Th' Old Man were a survivor of th' shell-back school, as th' gentleman calls it, ma'am, 'beggin' his pardon; and th' first mate were a tougher proposition, if

that were possible. And both of 'em hated th' sight of engineer officers, so used were they to sail and not having been in steam before then.

The A. B.'s included a good-for-nothin', but lovable, seaman we called Limey, who'd served in grain ships. Then there were Tex Peters, who'd learned seafarin' on board a castle-ship and'd made a better seaman than cow-puncher. There was Nigger Martin, a Barbadoan and a cracker-jack seaman at that, and a fourth man called the Rooshian Yid.

Day before we sailed, I remember, a little procession come alongside, an' Limey were told off to help them carry aboard a—er—a coffin, ma'am. With th' exception of Limey, whose watch it were, nobody but him, th' Old Man and th' first mate knew what we were takin' aboard, though no doubt Limey made it his bus'ness to tell th' rest of th' fo'c'sle crowd soon's he could. At dawn th' Airdgarth sailed.

A few mornin's later two of th' A. B.'s were a'chippin' rust, and

By WARREN ARMSTRONG

th' skipper overheard them a'talkin'.

Limey were sayin': "Clearin', ye say? An' th' perishin' glass a'risin', is it now? So it looks like we might 'ave a fair trip. We might—but I' th' old leddy!"

"Man! Tha's no way t' talk!" Nobody could ever mistake th' shocked accents of Nigger Martin. "Didn't Ah tell yo' all it was a cull'ud man would bring a faluh win' an' a good passage? Whaasa ole leddy gotta do wi' this hyah ship, man, huh? You all tell me!"

Limey told him, an' he added:—"Strewth, nigger, wot's th' use o' talkin' about a good trip, eh? 'Ow th' 'ell could we expect a fair win' wi' a cawfin aboard? Don't tell me, nigger, 'cos I knows all th' perishin' answer. Sime as I knows as 'ow niggers is lucky an' corpses ain't. An' don't stan' there a-grinnin' at me like that, for it don't 'elp matters!"

Late that evening the Airdgarth were wallowin' in a half-tornado that whipped fiercer every minute. When the Old Man came up on th' bridge, he remarked to the mate, affable-like:

"Freshened up some, mister!" Scottie McLellan growled: "Aye! An' she'll blow a wee bit harder before dawn. Ah'm thinkin'!"

Th' captain snorted, but he didn't make no reply, mebbe becose he were thinkin' of freights and ships that make overdue runs. Later on, though, he fell to cursin' th' engineers, who'd had orders from th' old chief to throttle down th' engines. An' by dawn, ma'am, the Airdgarth were in th' thick noon, and then she suddenly took a slow, soggy lurch and roll peculiar to a ship that is foundering.

By th' time th' engineers an' their men had fought their way to the deck she were a-wallowin' in her death-throes. They'd made their choice between scaldin' to death and drawnin'. Nigger Martin and Tex were a-runnin' towards th' centre-castle with flares in their hands, sendin' red tongues of distress into th' shriekin' wind.

Limey had gathered together a pile of beddin' and was stackin' it on top of a big box or something. He were dowsing the pile from a big can of kerosene, before settin' it alight. Up on the bridge the Old Man had tied down th' whistle and the ship were screamin' in a continuous shriek as the last of th' steam yelled out in agony that was almost human. Th' port lifeboats were a-

touchin' water by now, and each sea were poundin' 'em to match-wood. When at last th' skipper ordered 'em swung away th' men made for th' boats like mad, half-slidin' and half-jumpin' for th' falls. And as they pulled away slowly, crestin' th' green hills, th' Airdgarth wallowed over like some animal stricken to death, and went to th' bottom. Th' last I remember was th' scared face of Nigger Martin, crowned with a startlin' white shock of fuzzy hair. He were shriekin': "De Lawd forgive yo', Limey . . . dat cawfin were empty w'en it bust open!" Then he disappeared.

Well, that's all, ma'am. It were some weeks before I recovered, and it took some months to grow my finger nails again. I'd torn 'em adrift, a-clawin' at th' sides of th' boat that picked me up. I were one of seven survivors they took aboard. A long time later Limey were washed ashore, and he weren't a pretty sight. But then no man is when he's been washed about like he'd been. What nobody could understand, when they prised open his fingers, was why Limey should've been clutchin' th' brass handle off a coffin. I didn't offer no explanation, though I remembered how Limey's dived for th' starboard cabin just after he'd lit his distress flare."

Trevor moved comfortably in his deep armchair: "A queer yarn," he said, "but what's it got to do with this old house?"

"Well, it were this way, sir. Limey had married a girl of these parts months before he got th' ship; and when he failed to come back she pined. Mebbe she were happier when she rejoined Limey. Leastaways, that's what I've alikied to think . . . The old place lay empty for many years after that, and when I'd finished with th' sea, me and my missus came up here. We've never had cause to regret it, though there's something sad about th' place."

As the old man finished, Judy stifled a tired yawn, and laid her hand on Trevor's arm. "I'm so sleepy, old man. Do you mind if I turn in and leave you to smoke out your pipes together? It's well past midnight."

The fog had cleared when they left the old inn next morning. Judy was unusually quiet as they sped along the coast road where the blue seas rolled lazily on the pebbled shore below the cliffs. Save for the rustle of the gull's wings and their plaintive cries nothing could be heard. On the crest of the headland road, Trevor switched off the engine and then fumbled in the pocket of his great-coat.

"Can't for the life of me think where it came from, old girl!" he said. "But I found this beneath my pillow this morning." He displayed a time-stained brass handle. "Perhaps I dreamed too much, though I could have sworn an old weather beaten sailor stood by my side. He seemed to me to be supremely happy as he handed this thing to me."

The gulls wheeled noisily about the silent car. Down below the sea sang a happy song.

A fortnight later, Trevor, sitting in his club in London, chanced to feel the brass handle in his pocket. He was chatting to a friend of his—a naval officer, also finishing his leave—and decided to tell him of his strange adventure at "The Port of the Seven Seas."

As he recounted his story (with a few helpful additions of his own), his friend's expression changed from one of polite interest to open amusement. Seeing this, Trevor produced his brass handle as proof of his strange tale.

"But this is the strangest coincidence of all," he said, as he leaned forward with a smile. "Our worthy host must have an unlimited supply of these," and withdrawing his hand from his pocket he displayed . . . a brass handle!



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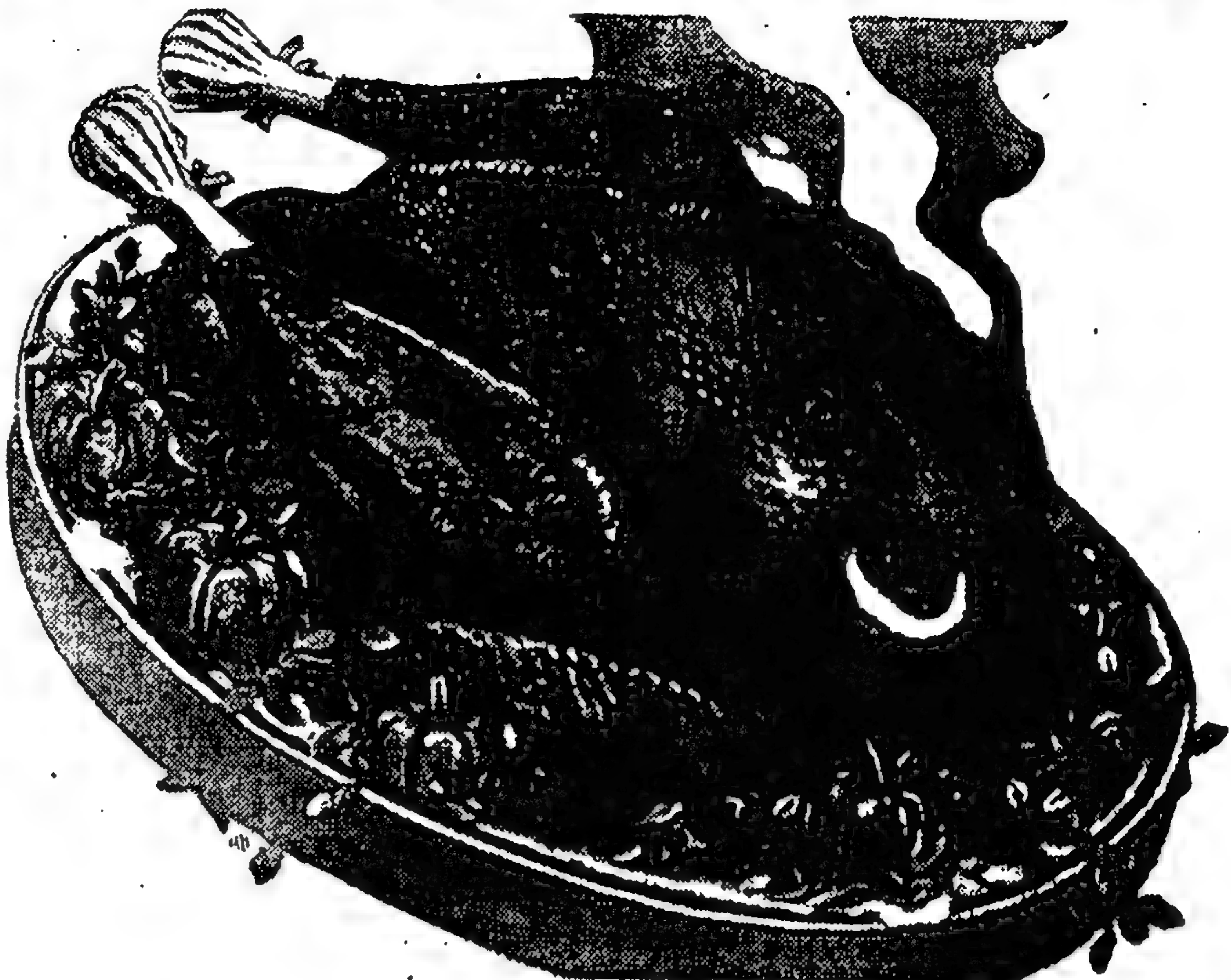
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Soaps carved and sculptured to resemble Santa himself, all the fairy tale figures and animals of the zoo. Soaps with neck and wrist cords for shower and bath which delight youngsters no end. Soap story book characters with accompanying tales; wee tot sets of talcum, cream and cotton in pretty containers and boasting purity; amusingly decorated dresser sets for the young lady's very own use—comb, mirror and brush.

Junior would be very proud to own brushes like Dad's, or a leather cased manicuring set which is definitely masculine. It might serve as inspiration to keep his nails clean! He might also appreciate a pocket comb in a case, a special tooth brush whose bristles wouldn't soften, accompanied by cleansing powder or paste. There are elegant masculine towels and wash cloths to inflate his growing ego, and if he is nearing the shaving stage why not medicated shaving preparations? A brush? A safety razor?

As we get to the teen age there is a galaxy of gifts for both sexes. oil skin for the male, and very fitted travelling cases, lined with smart locker accommodations. Whether he will confess to it or not, he adores pine scented baths and an out-doorsy cologne for after shaving. Good brushes, usually monogrammed, the more happier he will be.

SISTER'S PASSION IS PERFUME

Sister, as you know, likes everything that comes in pretty packages. Her passion is perfume. Lots of it. But almost any good cosmetic thrills her and no matter how many lipsticks, compacts and evening bags she now has, she is always eager to possess more.

So again your local cosmetic counter will help greatly in solving your gift problems. And as far as the family is concerned, you are killing two birds with one stone. Thrilling them with your choice and giving them something they actually need and can use!



No acting but genuine joy is expressed.

The Season's Greetings

I do like something nice and bright and Christmassy, don't you? These plain, modern ones are all right in their way, of course—very tasteful, no doubt, but they're not what I call seasonable.

I like a bit of holly on mine, and mistletoe and plum puddings and snow and robins and bells and angels and Father Christmases

By R.G. GOODYEAR

and things. That's why I got these. They've got everything on. They really look like Christmas cards.

Well, now, shall we start? I'll write the envelopes, you put the cards in, and Auntie can stick on the stamps. I'd better use George's fountain pen. This nib's crossed. There's no need to kick up such a fuss, George. Nobody's going to hurt your old pen. I only want to write a few envelopes.

I've put all the relations down first. I'm afraid there's rather a lot of them—thirty-eight. Well, I suppose it was grandpa's fault in the first place. He had fifteen children, you know—eight by his first and seven by his second.

It makes the Christmas cards come very expensive, but it can't be helped now. I don't suppose he thought about that at the time.

Whoever's this? I can't read my own writing. It looks like piecrust, but it couldn't be, could it? Oh, I know. It's George's Cousin Percy and his wife up in Leicestershire.

They've given up the piano business, you know, and taken an office. Yes, they say it gives a quicker return.

We didn't send them a card at all last year—not after the way they behaved over Uncle Henry's will. It was always clearly understood that George was to have the carved oak sideboard and the wardrobe from the front bedroom (not to mention the grandmother's clock), but they went and sold all the furniture, and sent George a pair of bellows. However, we thought we'd let bygones be bygones this year. Peace and goodwill, you know.

I've got Violet's name down with a question mark. We'd better keep that back. I shall have to find out what the rest of the family's going to do.

It's all very difficult; we've never had a thing like that happen in the family before. For one thing I don't even know what name to call her by—it'll be another six months before the divorce, of course—and for another, it doesn't seem quite nice to send a card with Merry Christmas on, considering the circumstances.

You'd never think she was that kind of girl, would you? We can't think who she takes after. But there! Still waters run deep, as they say.

What a peculiar pen this is of George's. It's like writing with a button-hook. I'm getting writer's cramp. How are you getting on, Auntie? Well, you'd better have a drink of water if you're getting dry, dear.

There, that's the relations finished off. Now for the friends. There's a big one there with a black cat and a calendar on—that's for the Browns.

I always have trouble with the Browns. They're not the sort of people you give a present to, and yet just an ordinary card doesn't seem enough somehow. They're half and halves so to speak.

We'll send one of those little penny ones to old Miss Bleach. You know it's a funny thing, but I simply hate that woman. I can't think why we keep on sending her a card, but we always do.

It's the same with the P's. We met them in a boarding-house when we were staying at Margate. Quite nice people they were; I think he was something to do with silk stockings, but I never really took to his wife.

She was one of those women who are always talking about their operations. My dear, the things that woman had had done to her you wouldn't believe. Well, all that was ages ago, and we've never seen them again from that day to this, but we still send each other Christmas cards. Funny, isn't it?

The B's? My dear, I shouldn't dream of sending them a card. Not after that business in the summer. Really, I'd prefer not to discuss it if you don't mind. There's nothing more to say, except that the whole thing was most regrettable. I will pass no opinion whatever about Mrs. B's conduct. Her own conscience must be her judge—but if she thinks she is a lady

This seems to be the lot, doesn't it. It's about time, too. George's pen's just beginning to write double. I shall just put the top on and give it him back without saying anything. Least said, soonest mended, is what I always say.

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THE GLOUCESTER



A CHRISTMAS SPRITE

say that it wasn't good," protested Cook.

"Was it a very special one?" asked Molly sympathetically.

"Extra special," sighed Cook. "I do believe even Father Christmas himself would have liked to taste it."

"But you wouldn't be awake when he comes," Molly reminded her.

"Oh, it doesn't matter so much about grown-ups being awake," said Cook. "If I saw him I'd tell him to be sure to put something very nice in your sock! And if he'd had a taste of that recipe I'm sure he would. It was for a special sweet—a friend of mine wrote it out for me only yesterday—and I thought it would just do nicely for this evening, being Christmas Eve."

Molly and Ellen helped Cook to look for the recipe, but it couldn't be found anywhere, so at last they gave it up, and Molly settled her-

self in the chair again. Ellen finished the silver and carried it out of the kitchen, and Cook went into the scullery to finish some jobs out there.

Molly began to wonder about a lot of things as she sat there, with Bobbles purring contentedly on her lap. Cousin Frankie was coming to stay with them this Christmas with Auntie Dora and Uncle Robert. Frankie was only four; not old enough to think of things by himself; and Molly felt very anxious in case Father Christmas didn't know that he was spending those exciting days with them, and

now?" More mischief, I'll be bound!"

They made their way along a passage that led them to quite a cosy room, where they saw the mischievous Sprite standing beside an old Mother Goblin. Although she was definitely a goblin she had quite a kind face, and looked, at the moment, so worried that Molly felt sorry for her.

When Mother Goblin saw her visitors she didn't seem in the least surprised, but said, just as though they were her greatest friends, "It's this naughty little son of mine! Always up to some foolish prank or other. The amount of damage he does you wouldn't believe. Goodness knows when he'll grow old enough to have more sense."

"I only took a scrap of paper," protested the Sprite, "not much harm in that."

"Only paper perhaps, but was there anything on it? That's the important point. Do you know?" she asked, turning to Molly.

Molly never liked telling tales, but all the same she did want to get the recipe back. So she said, "It had something written on it for Cook I believe, telling her how to make a nice 'Sweet' for our dinner this evening." Then she added hastily, "But he wouldn't know perhaps, if it was only on a loose bit of paper."

"Know or not, you shouldn't take things that don't belong to you," Mother Goblin said to the Sprite, "Where have you put it?"

"I—I threw it away."

Mother Goblin pointed to the staircase. "Now," she commanded sternly, "you go along, get that bit of paper, and put it right back where you found it." And the poor little Sprite, looking very crestfallen, walked away and up the stairs.

While he was gone Old Mother Goblin gave Molly some delicious

By N. B. OLLEY

might go to Frankie's house by mistake, thinking his sock would hang up there as usual. She wished she knew for certain whether anyone had told him. If Cook had waited up to give him some of the "Special Sweet" she would, of course, tell him, because she was always thoughtful in those ways. But now that the recipe was lost she might go to sleep, then he wouldn't know.

Her thoughts were suddenly interrupted because Bobbles jumped up exclaiming "What was that?" in a high, mewling voice.

Although Molly had never heard him speak before, it didn't seem at all odd, and she answered quite naturally, "I thought something moved too."

Then, so quickly that Molly could scarcely see it, a scrap of paper was pushed forward from



under the coal-box, fluttered for a moment, and was dragged back, while a mischievous voice piped, "Ya, Booh!" Almost immediately a tiny figure flashed past and slipped out of the back door, which Cook had opened and left slightly ajar when she went through into the scullery.

"He's got the recipe," squeaked Bobbles. "I know what it looked like because I played with it a bit on the table before Cook lost it."

"It must be the naughty Sprite," cried Molly, "let's catch him!"

She and Bobbles sprang down from the chair and chased after the little running figure. Once the Sprite turned and laughed at them, calling "Can't catch me!" and then raced on again.

Molly and Bobbles tore after him, panting and breathless, till they came to a country lane. Here they saw him suddenly stoop, lift a large stone that lay at the side of the road, and disappear from view.

They hurried to the stone, and Molly turned it over. Just underneath they discovered a steep and narrow staircase. There was a light at the far end, so they scrambled down. In the distance they could hear a querulous voice saying, "And what have you been up to

home-made toffee, and Bobbles a big saucer of milk; and it seemed no time before the Sprite was home again, looking just as bright and as ready for fun as ever. He said, "I've put it back where I found it; under the coal-box in your kitchen."

"That's better," said Old Mother Goblin, and gave him some toffee. "A nice trick that was, all the same; taking away a cook's recipe on Christmas Eve of all times!"

"Oh, I say!" gasped the Sprite. "I'd forgotten it was Christmas Eve. I wouldn't have taken it if I'd remembered."

"I should just think not indeed," said Mother Goblin, "perhaps now you'd like to try to think of something you can do to make up for it."

"Oh, please," put in Molly eagerly, "I know something he might be able to do. I'm not sure whether Father Christmas will have heard that my little cousin is coming to stay with us. It would be so dreadful if he went to his house and couldn't find him, and then didn't know where to take his presents. Do you think," looking at the Sprite, "you could possibly slip along and tell him before he starts out?"

(Continued on Page 13)

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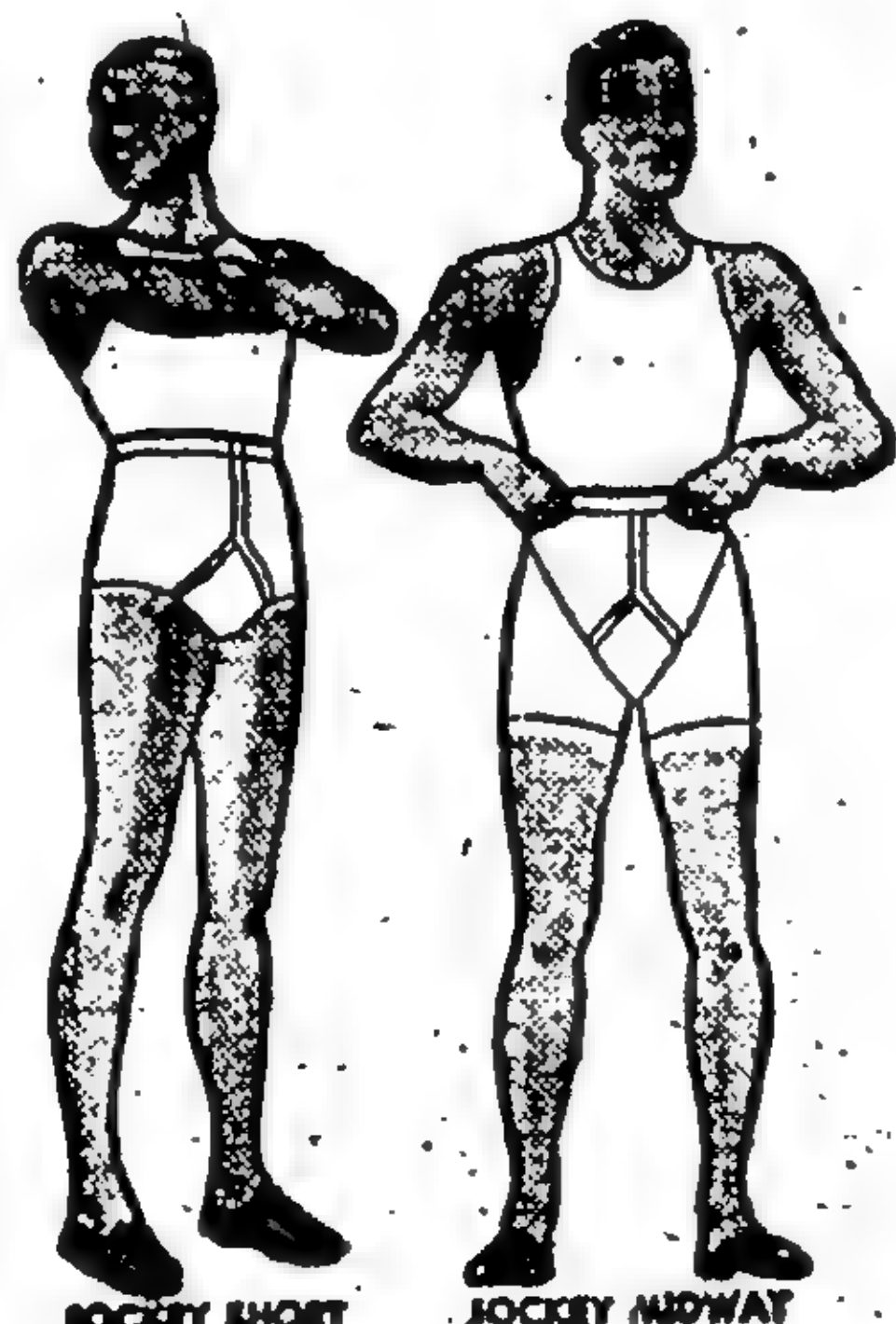
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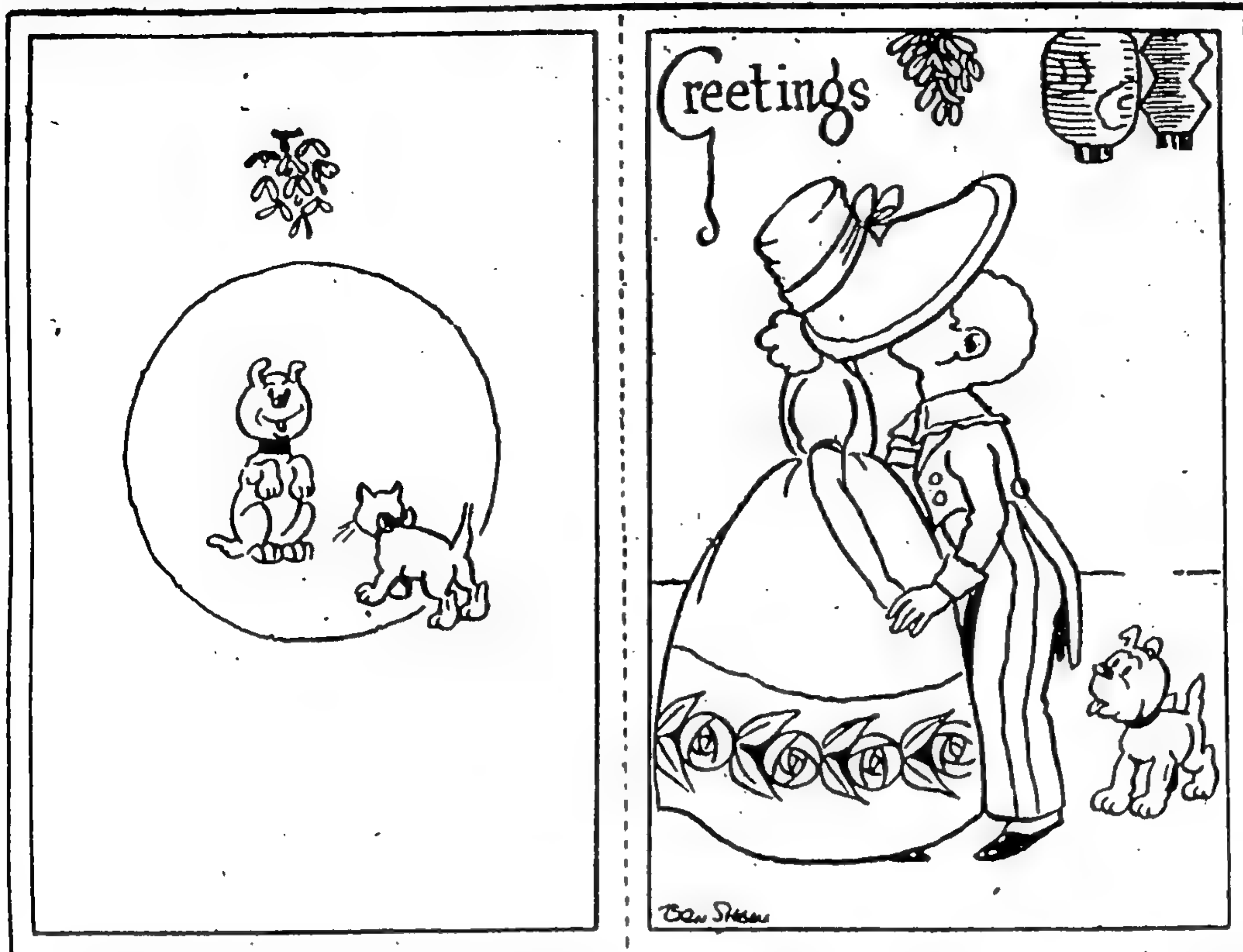
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Get out your paints or crayons, and carefully colour this design, then neatly paste it on to a sheet of white paper or thin card; trim the edges, then fold it at the dotted line.

A CHRISTMAS SPRITE

(Continued from Page 12)

"Certainly I could," declared the Sprite. "I'll tell him which house to go to. I ought to know it, because I've only just come from it." And he laughed, but happily and not mischievously this time. Then he raced away.

"He's not bad really," Old Mother Goblin assured Molly and

the kitten as she showed them up the staircase which they said it was time to go, "just a bit scatter-brained sometimes. But he'll give Father Christmas your message, you may be sure, because although he's mischievous he's very kind-hearted."

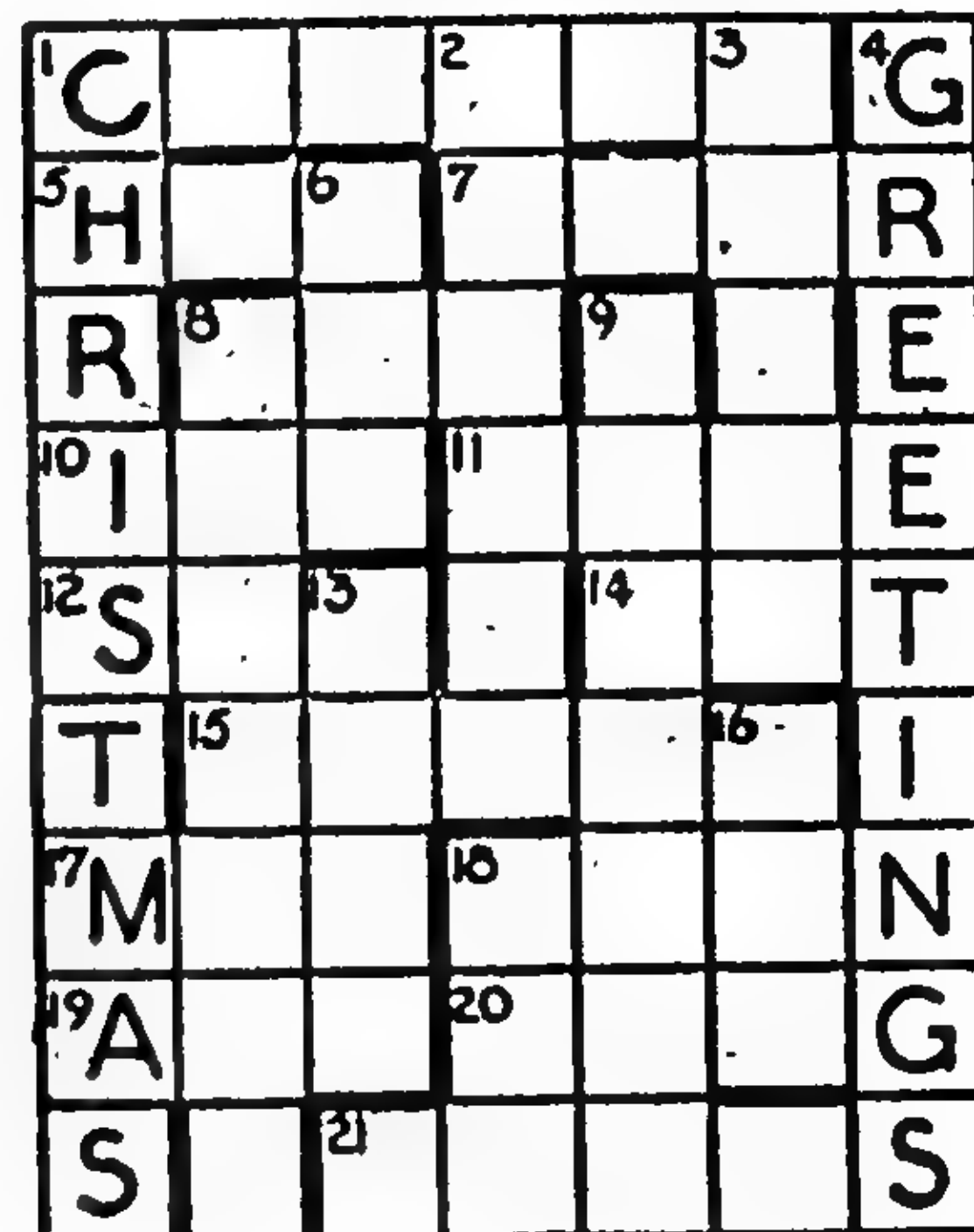
Molly and Bobbles hurried home, and were so tired when they arrived that just at first they forgot all about Cook's recipe, and only sank down wearily in her easy chair. But after a minute or two Bobbles remembered. She jumped

down from Molly's knee and started to fish with her paw under the coal-box. Then Molly remembered, too, and she jumped down and picked up the missing scrap of paper.

"Here it is, Cook," she called gleefully, "here's your recipe!"

"Why, so it is," cried Cook. "And just in time to make it nicely too." So she gave Molly a lovely little freshly-cooked cake, and Bobbles a big saucer of milk as a reward; and they both felt that they were being extremely lucky this Christ-

A Christmas Card Crossword



CLUES ACROSS

1. Christmas songs.
5. The weather is not usually this at Christmas.
7. Fruit.
8. We eat a lot of this at Christmas time.
10. Anger.
11. Letter.
12. Ply a needle.
14. Headgear.
15. Took a part.
17. People.
18. Portent.
19. Conjunction.
20. Used in flying.
21. See 3 Down.

CLUES DOWN

2. Unlocked.
- 3 and 21. Father Christmas.
6. Neckwear.
8. We all like to receive this at Christmas.
9. Good King Wenceslas ruled this ancient kingdom.
13. Strong breeze.
16. Lair.
18. Night bird.

mas.

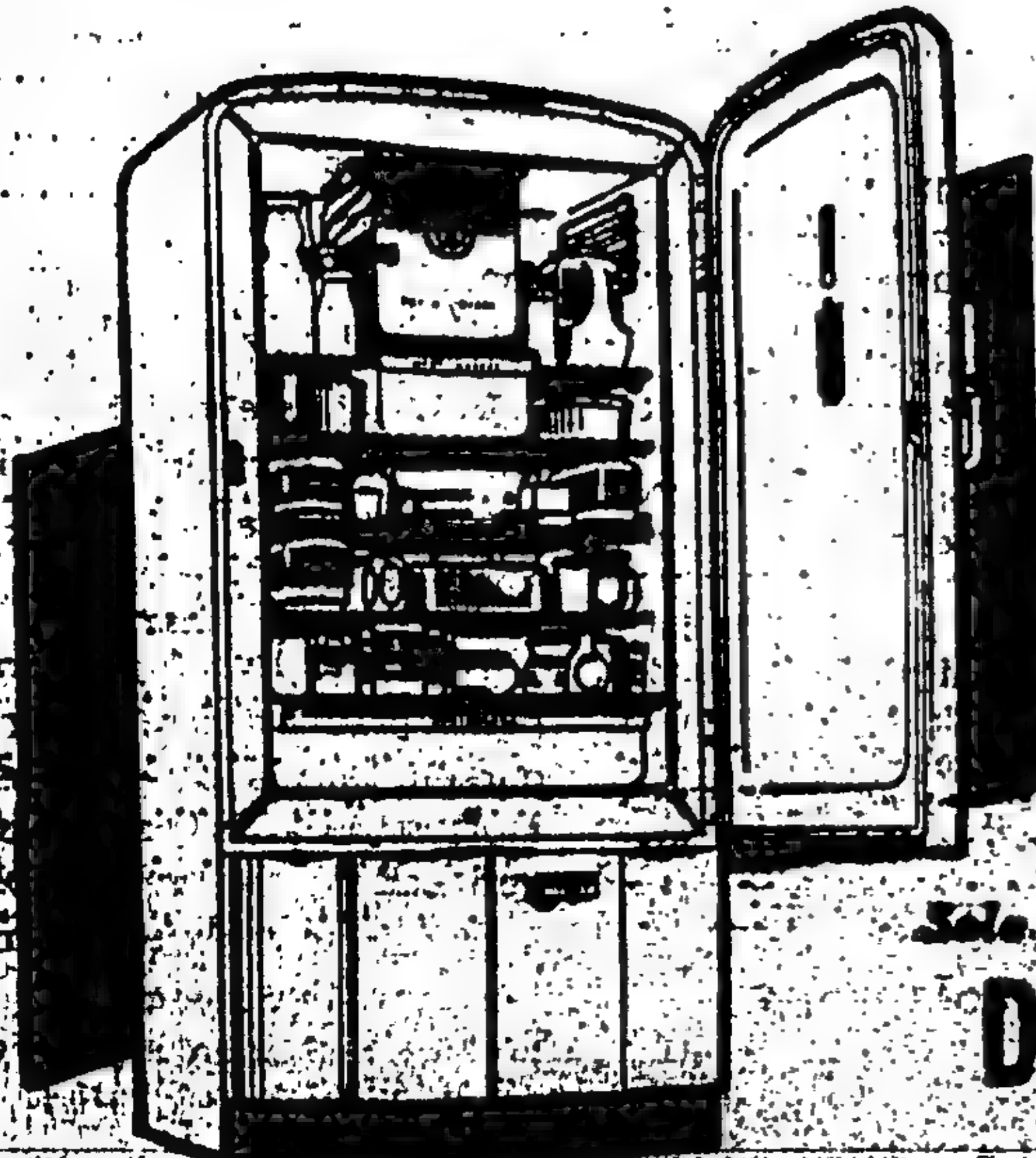
"So the good little Sprite did put it back again. And now Father Christmas will have learnt for certain that Frankie is staying here," sighed Molly happily.

Cook didn't know in the least what Molly was talking about! But Molly knew! And so do you, don't you?



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STUDEBAKER

KEEP FIT THIS CHRISTMAS

CURIOUS, is it not, that most people think of health as something entirely physical? Let us admit that the influence of food, exercise, light, and air are very important, at Christmas time especially, but let us not forget the psychological factor in promoting perfect health. In grown-up people, at any rate, mental processes determine self-discipline or self-indulgence—the making of friends, the cultivation of interests which influence our health and happiness.

Take health at the Christmas season, for example. Food to begin with. Christmas fare is not indigestible. Most of it is good food, highly concentrated, nourishing, palatable, and appetising. Well cooked plum pudding, mincemeat, and Christmas cake contain valuable fruits. Home-fed turkey is an ideal "flesh" food. Candied fruits are perfectly wholesome, and most housewives are generous with fruit at Christmas time.

DON'T OVER-EAT

That many people are ill as a consequence of Christmas fare has a simple explanation. Over-eating. Rich and concentrated food should be taken sparingly. Breakfast on Christmas morning should consist of tea, toast, orange or apple to give appetite and ability to digest turkey and plum pudding.

Children should have nothing after the Christmas dinner but a light tea-supper with plenty of fresh lemonade or orangeade. Adults who dine in the event will avoid that aftermath of depression, if they limit their midday meal to one course and miss "tea" altogether.

Two days of semi-starvation after the Christmas season is the best health measure for those who have plenty to eat. Better still, the people who belong to this category should curtail their abundance and send a few shillings anonymously to one of the Distress Funds to provide a Christmas dinner for one poor family.

ONE FUNDAMENTAL

To keep well at Christmas we must remember one fundamental, scientific health maxim: Good Health Depends on Resistance. We cannot escape exposure to fatigue, chill, and infection at Christmas time or at any season of the year. The first two lower resistance. Germs of bacilli (microscopic, one-celled organisms against which our blood cells, like savages, wage continual war) are always trying to attack human beings on this part of the earth's surface.

We cannot altogether escape fatigue if we must work hard, or chill if we are to expose ourselves to weather changes in this Christmas season. Indeed, cottonwool environment only makes us more susceptible to vicissitudes, physical and psychical. So it comes back to our resistance, which depends first upon heredity and secondly on environment—including food and clothing, light and air, teaching and training from the first day of our lives.

GOOD RESOLUTIONS

The best of all good resolutions for the New Year are concerned

with health. How can we in this age help to raise "resistance"?

Knowledge concerning food and dietetics is increasing, but very slowly. What should a woman know about food? (1) The best food to buy on health and economical grounds. (2) How it should be cooked so that salts and vitamins are conserved. (3) She should know that Vitamin A is found in milk, fats, and green vegetables; Vitamin B in wholemeal flour; Vitamin C in fresh fruits.

These are concerned with growth, the development of sound teeth, strong bones, healthy blood. They must be included in Christmas fare and in the family daily menus of 1940.

BEST ARE SIMPLE

Good health is not promoted by expensive foods or overcooked, highly-seasoned fare served in many courses. The best foods are simple. Lacto-vegetarian foods (milk, cheese, vegetables) will increase resistance to rheumatism, cold, catarrhs, and other undesirable diseases. Herring is a better food than sole. Potatoes, cabbage, wholemeal bread and butter, and a glass of milk make an excellent nursery dinner.

Such simple meals after Christmas help to restore balance to the digestion and the family exchequer.

By Dr. SLOAN
CHESSE

Old trite criticisms of Christmas parties as a menace to health do not concern

us. If one child has influenza or measles before the rash comes out he is a source of danger. I admit. The child with sufficient "resistance" will escape. The danger is less if rooms are well ventilated and children are not over-tired.

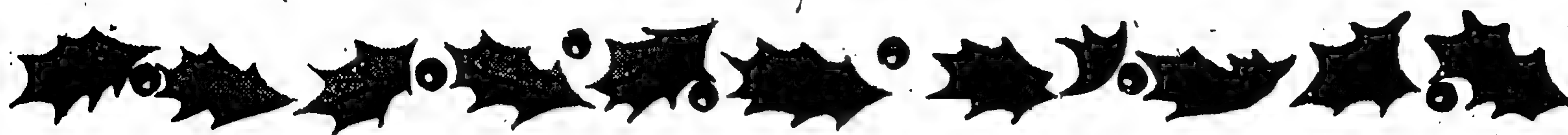
It follows, therefore, that two hours rest in bed is wise precaution. If young people are attending Christmas parties in the evenings those with "colds" should be deprived of social gatherings for their own welfare and in the interests of others. Children should be sufficiently wrapped up to protect them from chill, and sensibly as well as artistically clad. Keep windows open unless there is fog all day and night during the Christmas season.

LIVE GENEROUSLY

Christmas gatherings in other respects are all to the good. They promote, or ought to promote, good social feeling, kindness, new friendships. The Christmas feeling should be fostered, conserved, and carried into life in 1940.

Is it not essential to health that we should keep in our minds the Christmas ideal of love, service, kindness and charity?

To try to live for others is the surest of all ways of living healthily oneself. This is not sentimentalism. It is sense. To be self-absorbed and selfish, as every physician knows, is an early sign of neurosis. We must live generously to keep healthy and sane and give life worth living.



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A WALK PAST THE SHOPS

By IVOR BROWN

AS each Christmas approaches our shopkeepers are even more keenly engaged upon a glittering rivalry of display. Not only do the Neon tubes increasingly paint the town with their blues and oranges, but the shopwindows themselves blaze with their invitations to expenditure. The Toy Departments are turned into theatres and magic cities. Even when the long hours of salesmanship are over there are windows still illumined to advertise their content, so that "a walk past the shops" may be as helpful to custom at midnight as at midday.

The Shop Magnificent is a comparatively modern device for parting men from money. Three hundred years ago the city shops depended for advertisement not on lamps but on lungs. They had "a barker," crying the wares like the market pedlar of all time. At the beginning of "The Fortunes of Nigel" Scott described the shop of David Ramsay, maker of watches and horologes to his Sacred Majesty King James I. The shop stood "within Temple Bar, a few yards to the eastward of Saint Dunstan's Church."

The goods were exposed to sale in cases, only defended from the weather by a covering of canvas, and the whole resembled the stalls and booths now erected for the temporary accommodation of dealers at a country fair rather than the established emporium of a respectable citizen. But most of the shopkeepers of note, and David Ramsay amongst others, had their booth connected with a small apartment which opened backward from it, and bore the same resemblance to the front shop that Robinson Crusoe's cavern did to the tent which he erected before it.

While he himself was working at his clocks and watches, in whose improvement he was a scientific pioneer, two apprentices kept up a brisk vocal appeal to

the passers-by, in which exercise there was a natural temptation for youth to be pert at the expense of odd-looking or unfortunate passers-by who were unlikely to have money to spend. Shops in those days added to the liveliness of the town, but not to the look or the peace of it. The apprentices were a pugnacious crowd, and their uproarious witticisms often led to scuffles and riots.

Now, when a chemist is one who sells you everything that is not in the pharmacopoeia as well as everything that is, and does so with a lavish touch in spangled and resplendent window-dressing, it is queer to read of that Mantuan apothecary, the cash chemist who did pretty well for himself at Romeo's expense and may even have given his shop a coat of paint and some new candles with the forty ducats which he got for a dose of poison. The chemist was seen

In tatter'd weeds, with overwhelming brows,
Culling of simples; meagre were his looks,

Sharp misery had worn him to the bones;

And in his needy shop a tortoise hung,

An alligator stuff, and other skins

Of ill-shaped fishes; and about his shelves

A beggarly account of empty boxes,

Green earthen pots, bladders, and musty seeds,

Remnants of packthread, and old cakes of roses,

Were thinly scatter'd, to make up a show.

That description, with its curious and precise detail, must surely be a direct picture of some shop where Shakespeare occasionally called when he needed a morning antidote for last night's sherris-sack or some other purge for melancholy. Well, we have alter-

ed all that. The modern apothecary, housed in a crystal palace, sells everything from literature to lipstick, and instead of wearing tattered weeds he is likely to be a good deal better dressed than his customer. It always puzzles me how male shop assistants, on the wages they earn, contrive to look so well laundered and well dressed, while the young ladies of the craft must surely spend as much on hair, skin, hands, and nails as they can earn in a week's hard labour.

While the brisker types of modern salesmanship illumine a town, they remove the intimacy and the confidences of the old type of retail trade. In the multiple store the shop assistant is often just an automaton. The customer makes his choice from goods displayed on a counter without a word said; the shop assistant acts as an invigilator and a recipient of cash. This is the total abolition of selling as a craft; there is nothing left but a routine exchange of pence and package. The old shopkeeper liked to be, and often was, a genuine consultant. You discussed your needs, your "case," with him and he prescribed. That kind of shopkeeper, who has been hard pressed by the glossier, more immediate appeal of the Neon-lighted salesmanship, lingers on in bookshops or in the commerce of "bespoke" articles, of sporting gear, fishing rods, and so forth. In his old style of shop front, dark, gracious, bow-windowed, serene, the note was that of a snug secrecy rather than of blatant exhibition. This was a man's house not a firm's bazaar, and it plainly offered its modest invitation to come in for a chat. You were to meet a skilled adviser who was concerned to sell you only what you needed instead of to foist off some "new line" which offered a particularly large retailer's profit. People are apt to be unduly sentimental about the unofficial

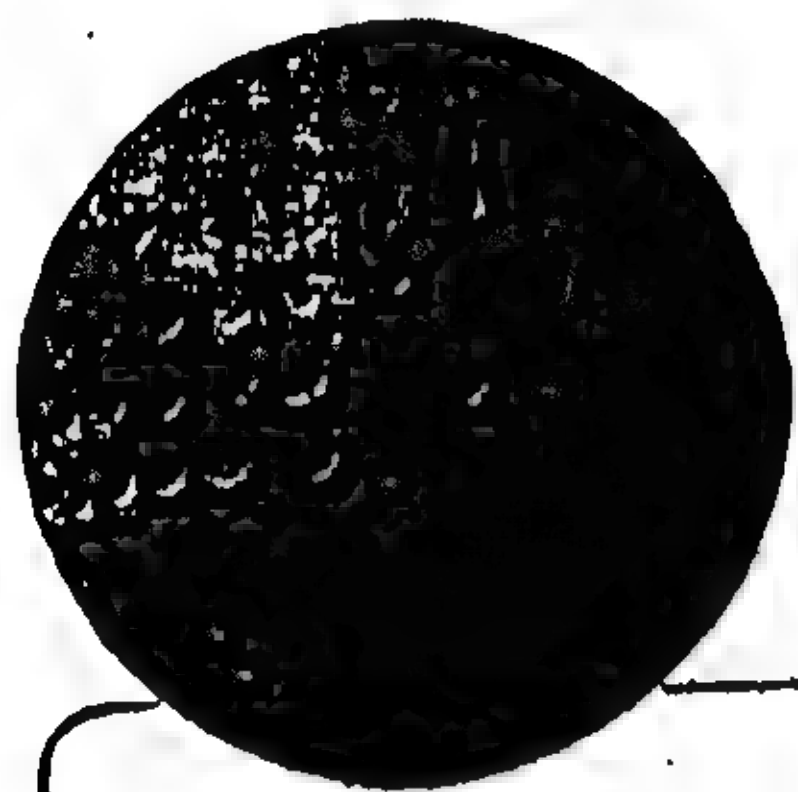
shops, the street-markets and their barrows and the men raucously bellowing their bargains and expounding the merits of their junk. My sympathies are with the shopkeepers who have to pay heavy rates and rents and then put up with this undercutting just outside their windows. While street-markets may keep prices down for the very poor, they are really causing a nuisance at the same time by the ensuing blockage of traffic and by the mess they make of the streets. The amount of garbage to be swept up, at common costs, after a market-day can be enormous. I see no reason to sob with emotion over pedlars and gipsies, although our romantics have always made special pets of them. The man who needs our compassion to-day quite as much as anybody else is the man who takes responsibility, the man who hires or builds premises, looks after them, fights the competition of the heavily capitalised multiple store, pays his wages, his rates, and his rent, keeps the shutters up, and confronts, as best he may, the tax-gatherer. What was it that animated the Victorian attitude to retail trade and started among so-called "gentlefolk" the jeers about "shopocracy"? Was it jealousy of the wealth? Whatever it was, it was foolish enough. A "gentleman" could have an office and a warehouse; only cads had shops. Which is it, office or shop, that gives an air and an aroma, a glitter and a colour to the town? At Christmas, most especially, we are given the answer. The shopkeeper is our lamplighter, and even, too, our entertainer. Of course he is not doing it all for love of our bright eyes. But we are the beneficiaries of the beacon that he kindles for purposes of gain; never to despise a by-product is elementary tact and prudence.

Very Acceptable Christmas Gifts

ONE OF THESE TWO
IS THE BALL FOR YOU!

The
TOP-FLITE BALL
played by

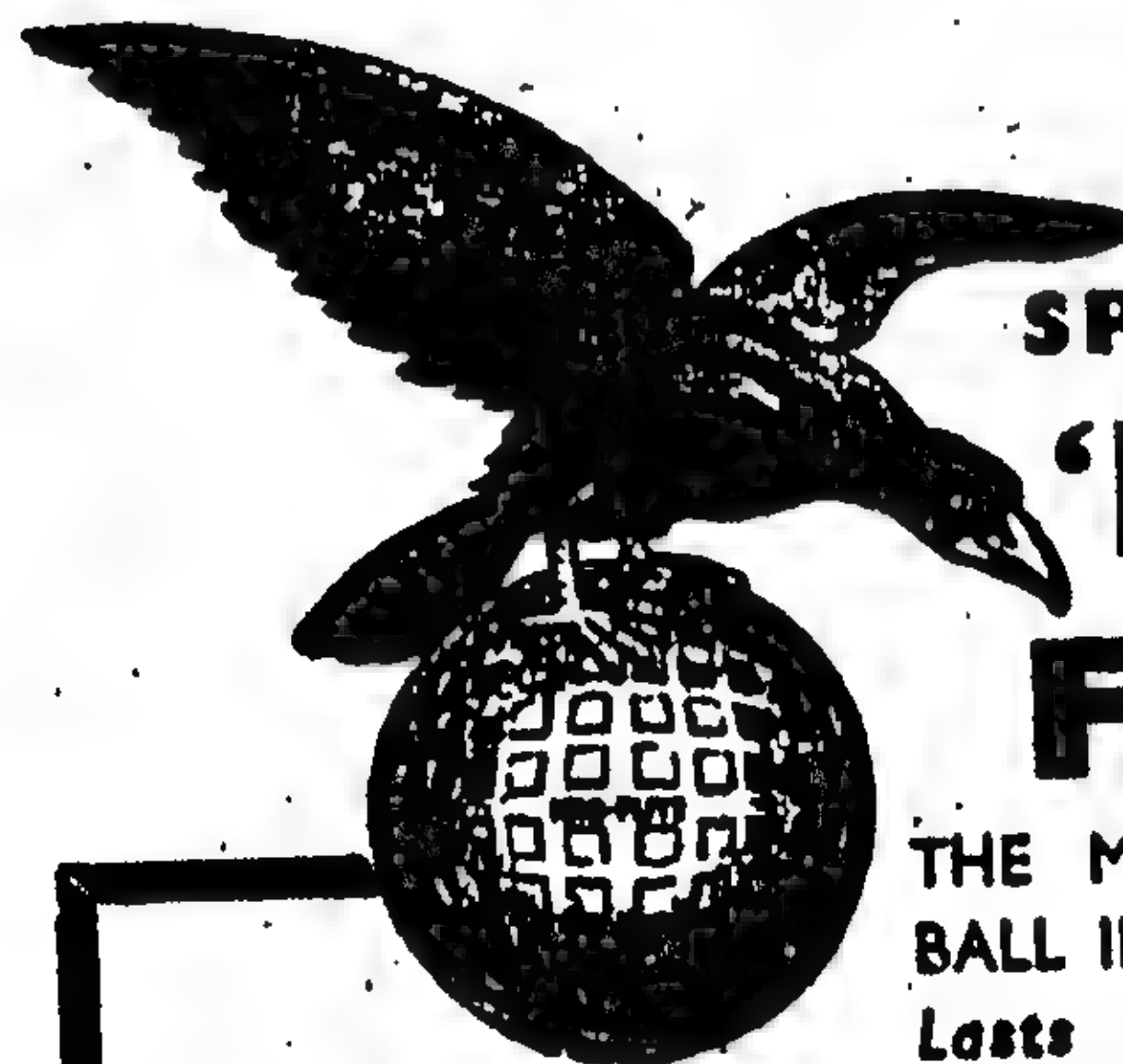
The
TOP-FLIGHT
GOLFER



BOTH OF THE HOUSE OF
SPALDING

"NEEDED" & COTTON

HENRY COTTON... THE MOST PROMINENT GOLFING
FIGURE OF RECENT YEARS, has joined A. G. Spalding &
Bro. (Chicago, Ltd.) as Consultant. They have thus secured the
fullest benefit of his advice, experience and personality in
connection with Golf Clubs, Balls and everything appertaining to
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'KRO-
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THE MOST DURABLE
BALL IN THE WORLD
Lasts till it's Last!
GUARANTEED 72 HOLES

SPALDING "NEEDED"
TOP-FLITE

THE LONGEST DRIVING BALL AND YET
ALMOST AS DURABLE AS THE "KRO-FLITE"

OBTAINABLE AT ALL LEADING SPORTS DEALERS AND GOLF CLUBS.



"Where'd you get those big, black eyes? Joan Blondell asks Pat O'Brien in 'The Kid from Kokomo' showing to-day at the King's Theatre.

"HITLER SPEAKS"

(Continued from Page 10)

National Socialism, and establish an essentially evangelical, German, united church of which Catholics would be expected to form a subordinate section. I have spoken many times since then with the Reich Bishop Mueller, who was very nearly my predecessor as President of the Danzig Senate. His ambitions lay in this direction.

"The Protestants haven't the faintest conception of a church," I heard Hitler saying. "You can do anything you like to them—they will submit. They're used to cares and worries. They learnt them from their squires. The parsons, when they were invited to the Sunday roast goose, had their place at the foot of the table, amongst the children and tutors. It was even an honour that they were not asked to sit at the servants' table. They are insignificant little people, submissive as dogs, and they sweat with embarrassment when you talk to them. They have neither a religion that they can take seriously nor a great position to defend like Rome."

The conversation ebbed again into unimportant details and mere abuse, and rose only once more to higher levels of interest. Hitler was speaking about the peasantry, claiming that under their Christian exterior, the old eternal heathendom still lurked, and broke out again and again.

"You're a farmer," he said, turning to me. "What can you tell us about it? How are conditions in your district?"

I rose and joined the group. In our district, I said, we had highly rationalised farming where there was little of the old customs left. But no doubt it was true: if you scratched the surface, ancient, inherited beliefs were revealed.

"You see," Hitler returned triumphantly; "that is what I'm building on. Our peasants have not forgotten their true religion. It still lives. It is merely covered over. The Christian mythology has simply coated it like a

layer of tallow. It has preserved the true contents of the pot. I have said this to Darre (the Minister for Agriculture), and told him that we must start the great reformation. He has suggested means to me, magnificent means! I have approved them. The old beliefs will be brought back to honour again. In our 'Green Week' and in the 'Travelling Agricultural Exhibition! He will allude to our inherited religion in picturesque and expressive language that even the simplest peasant can understand.

"It will not be done in the old way, running riot in colourful costumes and dreaming of a departed, romantic age. The peasant will be told what the Church has destroyed for him: the whole of the secret knowledge of nature, of the divine, the shapeless, the daemonic. The peasant shall learn to hate the Church on that basis. Gradually he will be taught by what wiles the soul of the German has been raped. We shall wash off the Christian veneer and bring out a religion peculiar to our race."

With that the conversation ended. It was all fulfilled later, even to the last item Hitler had hinted at. Thoroughly and systematically, with iron logic, the war of annihilation against Christianity was being waged.

(to be continued.)

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To-morrow: Is Hitler Mad?

Six pirates, armed with revolvers and rifles, held up a cargo junk off Castle Peak at 4 a.m. to-day. They escaped with a large quantity of vegetables and poultry.

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GIVES IN ALL VAUXHALLS—

REMARKABLE ECONOMY
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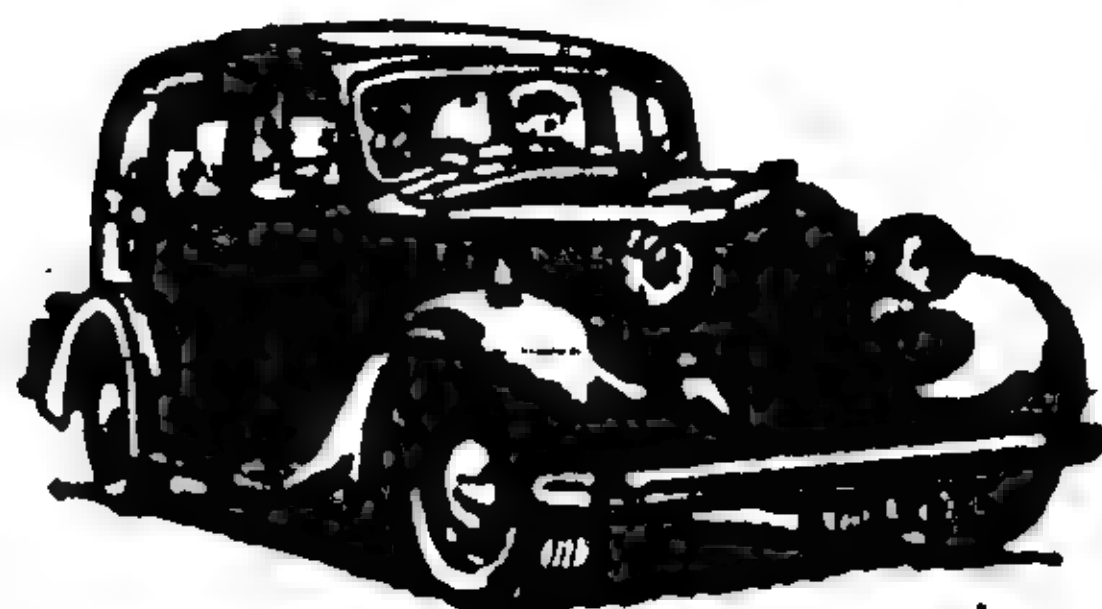
INDEPENDENT SPRINGING
(changes riding into gliding)

CONTROLLED SYNCHROMESH
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NO DRAUGHT VENTILATION
(fresh air without shivers)

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TENDER OR
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Soft, spongy, tender, bleeding gums cost you your teeth, however white and strong they seem. Do not risk this—or the ill health which diseased gums bring. Use Gibbs "S.R." Tooth Paste. Regular use of Gibbs "S.R." clears up the unhealthy conditions—keeps the mouth fresh and sweet, the gums firm. Gibbs "S.R." is best for teeth as well as gums, polishing them to gleaming whiteness, guarding precious enamel, keeping them sound and safe.

ASK YOUR DENTIST ABOUT

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(TOOTH PASTE)

FOR TEETH AND GUMS

At Good Chemists & Stores

Sole Agents: John D. Hutchison & Co., Hong Kong.

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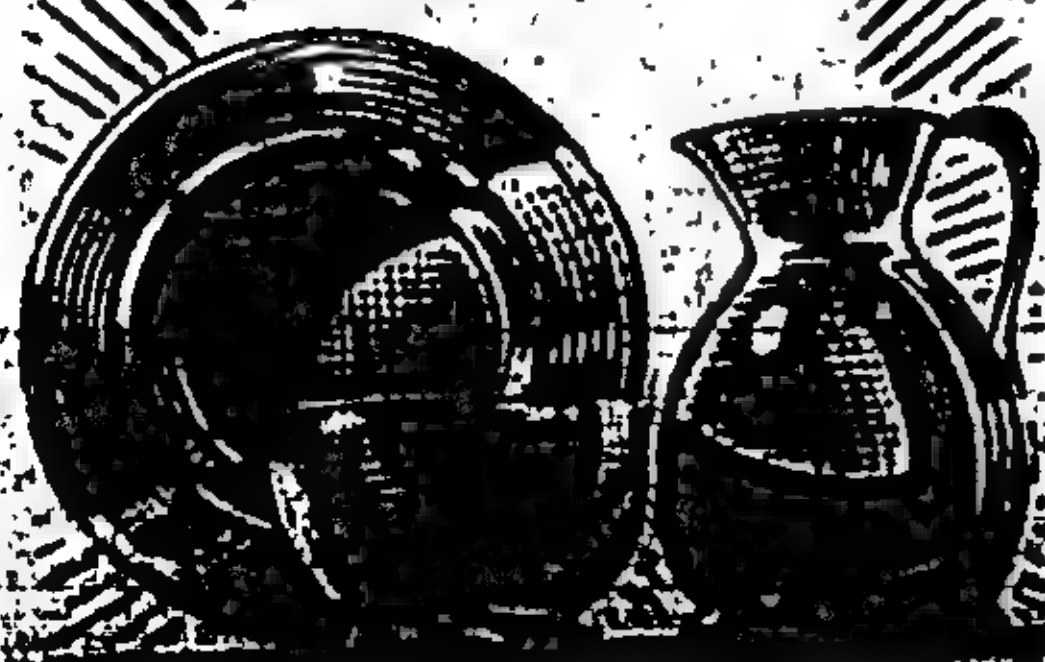
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TOOTH PASTE—night and morning—

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BRASSO

METAL POLISH
Makes light work



Ingenohl's

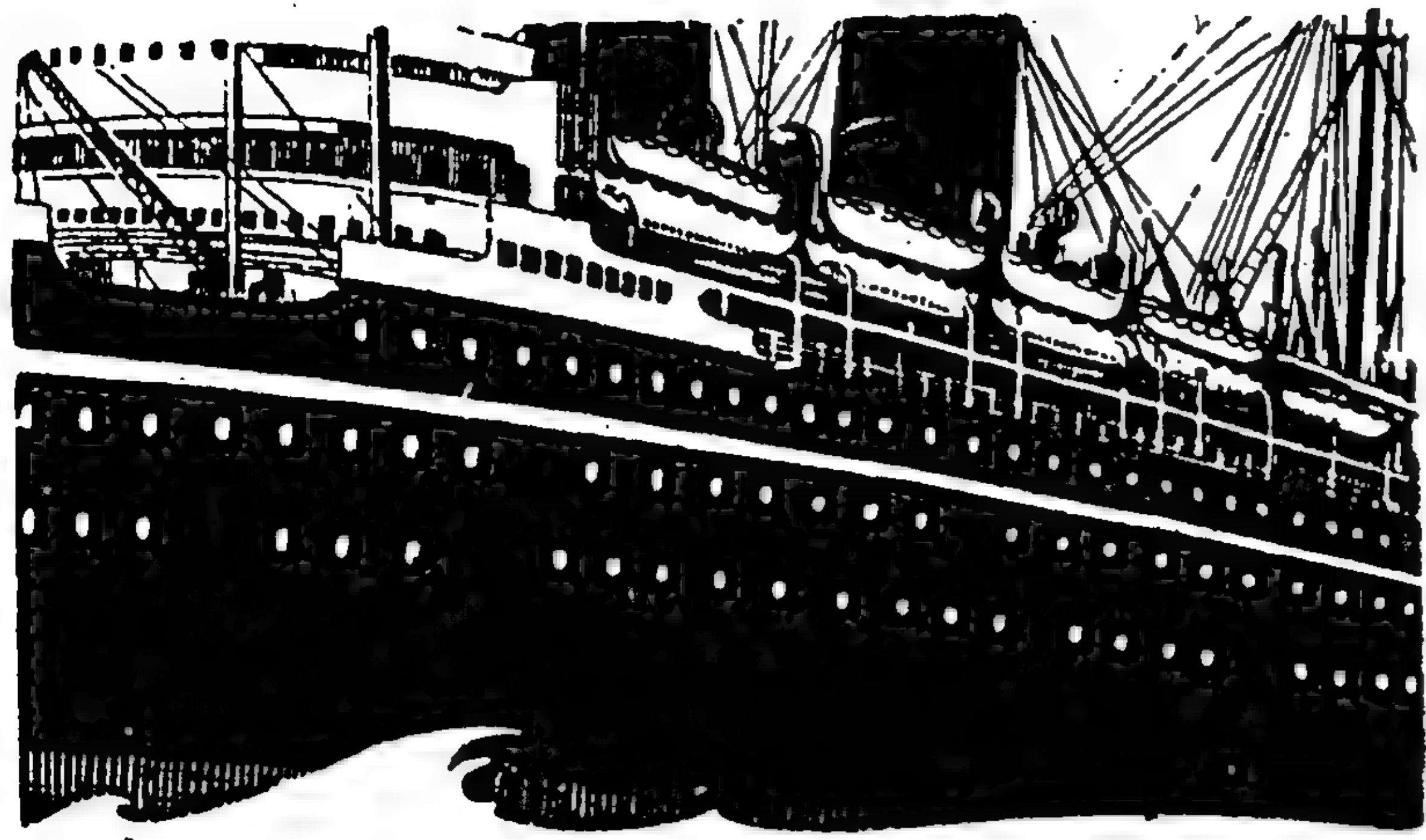
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Obtainable at all

Ingenohl's Cigar Stores "La Perla del Oriente" and other tobacconists

Box of 25 \$ 8.—
Humidor of 25 \$ 8.—
Humidor of 50 \$15.50
DE LUXE Box of 10 \$ 3.50
DE LUXE Box of 25 \$ 8.50
DE LUXE Box of 50 \$16.—
DE LUXE—Camagon of 25 \$10.—
In GLASS TUBE—Box of 10 \$ 4.50



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maintain the following services:-

To UNITED KINGDOM - freight every fortnight
(via Bombay).

To UNITED KINGDOM - passengers once a month
(via Bombay).

To CALCUTTA - passengers and freight
every fortnight.

To AUSTRALIA - passengers and freight
every month.

ALSO FREQUENT SAILINGS FOR SHANGHAI AND JAPAN

All vessels may call at any ports on or off the route and the route and all sailings are subject to change or deviation with or without notice.

Passengers are requested to register their requirements but under present circumstances sailings are perforce restricted.

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THE CHINA MAIL, DECEMBER 20, 1939.

EMPIRE AIR TRAINING SCHEME

London, To-day.

IN A BROADCAST on the Dominions air training scheme the Air Secretary said the scheme would put British ascendancy over the enemy in the air beyond challenge.

Sir Kingsley Wood expressed the view that considering the size of the scheme, which would give an annual outflow of pilots and aircrews greater than the full outstanding strength of the R.A.F., as it was not so long ago, the Empire had done a fine job in fixing up such an inspiring and constructive plan in such a short time.

"It will indeed be a great demonstration of Empire unity when men from the Royal Canadian Air Force, the Australian Air Force, the Royal New Zealand Air Force and our own Royal Air Force train together in safe Canadian flying training schools."

Sir Kingsley cited some impressive figures given by the Canadian Prime Minister to indicate the magnitude of the training effort required from Canada alone.

There are to be 67 training schools in Canada, including service flying schools, ten observer schools, ten bombing and gunnery schools, four wireless schools and two for navigation. The staff alone would number 40,000.

Some sixty new aerodromes are being constructed and twenty existing aerodromes enlarged.

THOUSANDS OF PLANES

The scheme would call for many thousands of aircraft, the bulk of which would be supplied by the United Kingdom, but each Dominion would supply locally made aircraft to an increasing extent from its own manufacturing resources.

While negotiations had been in progress the participating Governments had gone ahead with preliminary steps of the great plan.—British Wireless.

WAR COUNCIL IN SESSION

Paris, To-day.

A meeting of the Supreme War Council was held in Paris yesterday morning, those attending including Prime Minister Chamberlain, Premier Daladier and General Gamelin. They met at the War Ministry.—Reuter.

BRITISH OVERSEAS TRADE RISES

London, To-day.

It is revealed that British overseas trade in November was £32,000,000 higher than in October, which itself showed a substantial increase on September, the month of disorganisation.

The total of exports was only £5,250,000 less than in November last year. The most satisfactory feature was that exports showed an increase of £10,000,000 in manufactured articles as compared with October.—Reuter.

THE FULL FIGURES

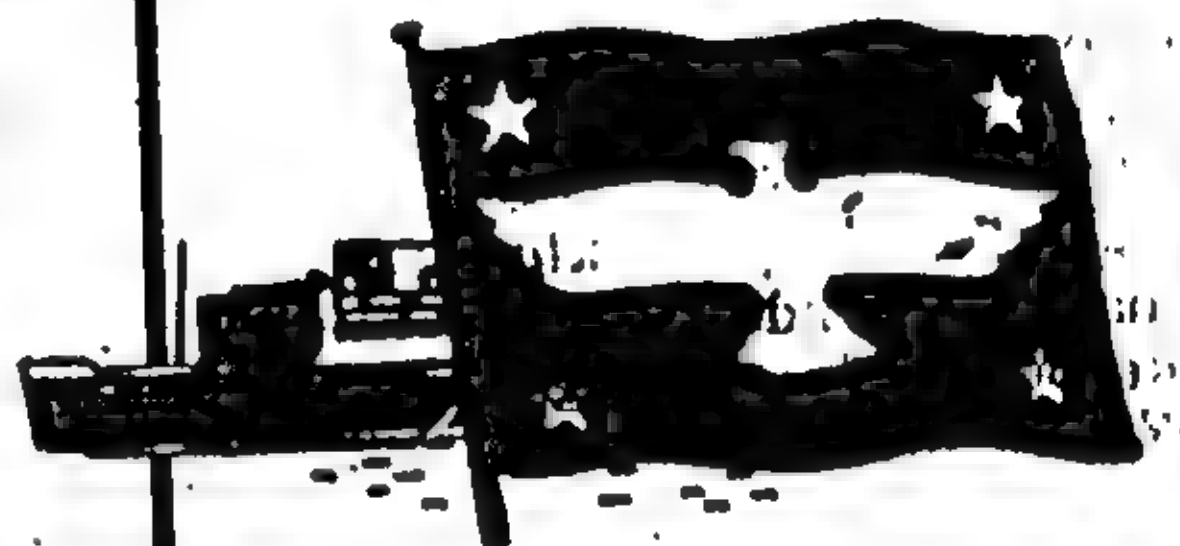
Board of Trade returns of overseas trade for November show imports valued at £83,988,000 compared with £81,841,464 last month and £77,973,018 in November, 1938.

The value of November exports was £37,360,327 against £24,622,840 in October and £42,923,223 in November, 1938.

Re-exports were £2,745,077 against £1,998,146 last month and £5,113,912 in November, 1938.

In the first eleven months of the year, the total value of imports was £800,995,632, representing a decrease of £46,086,401 on the corresponding period of 1938. Eleven month's exports totalled £398,686,810, a decrease of £33,313,769.—British Wireless.

PRESIDENT LINER Sailings



TRANS-PACIFIC SERVICE

To

SAN FRANCISCO & LOS ANGELES
Via Shanghai, Japan & Honolulu

ROUND-WORLD SERVICE

To

NEW YORK & BOSTON
Via Manila, Singapore, Penang,
Colombo, Bombay, Suez, Port
Said, Alexandria, Naples,
Genoa, and Marseilles.

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IMMINENT DEPARTURES

PASSENGER AND FREIGHT.

THIS WEEK DECEMBER..... JAPAN.
 THIS WEEK DECEMBER..... AUSTRALIA via MANILA
 and Way Ports.
 NEXT WEEK DECEMBER..... SHANGHAI and JAPAN.
 FIRST WEEK JANUARY..... LIVERPOOL via Suez, Mar-
 seilles and Casablanca.
 FORTNIGHTLY HONOLULU, SAN FRAN-
 CISCO, and LOS ANGELES
 FORTNIGHTLY VANCOUVER and SEATTLE.

FREIGHT ONLY.

THIS WEEK DECEMBER..... BOMBAY via SINGAPORE
 and Way Ports.
 NEXT WEEK DECEMBER..... CALCUTTA via SINGAPORE
 and Way Ports.
 FIRST WEEK JANUARY..... NEW YORK via Japan,
 Los Angeles and Panama.

Complete Information from Your Agent or:

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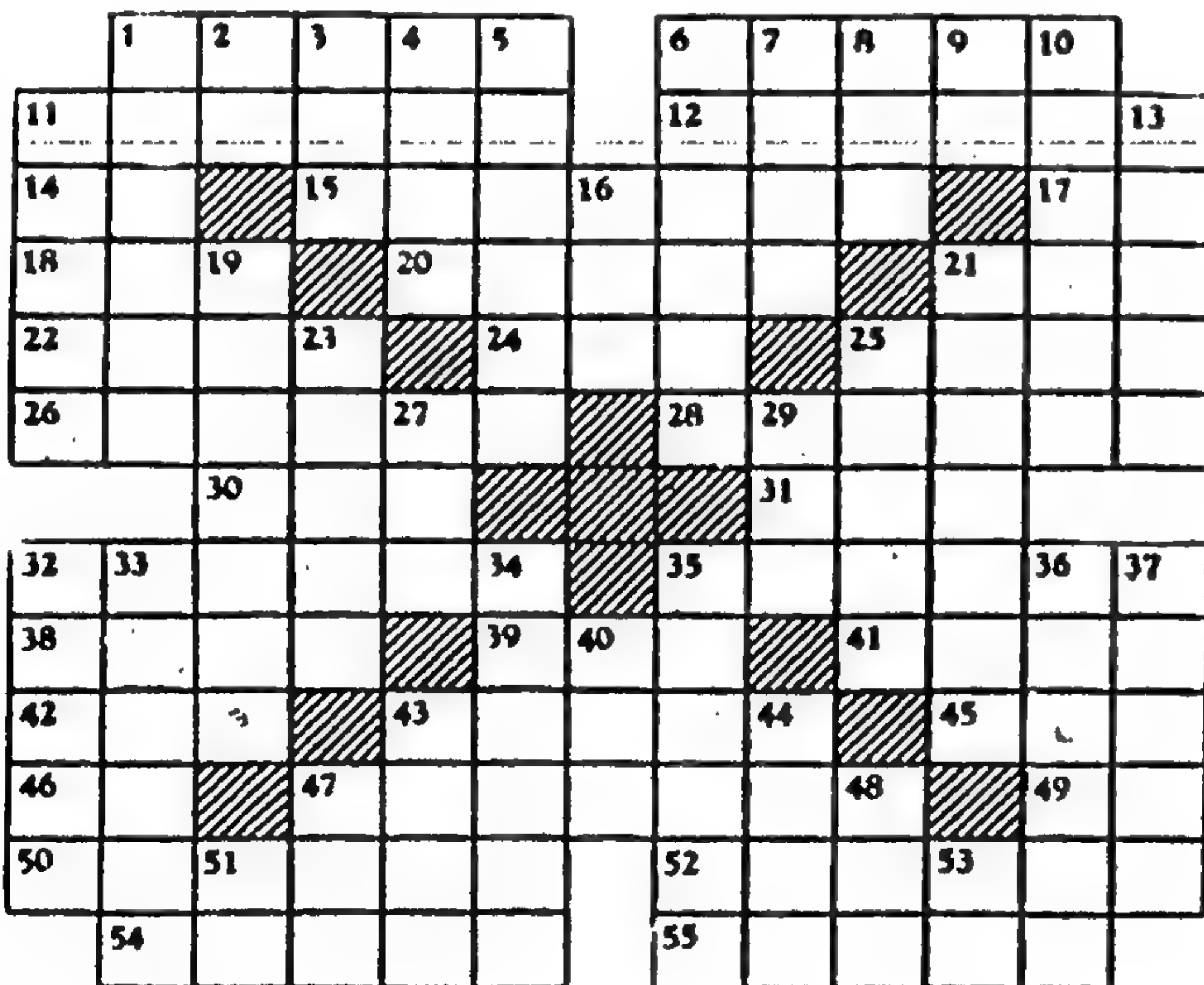
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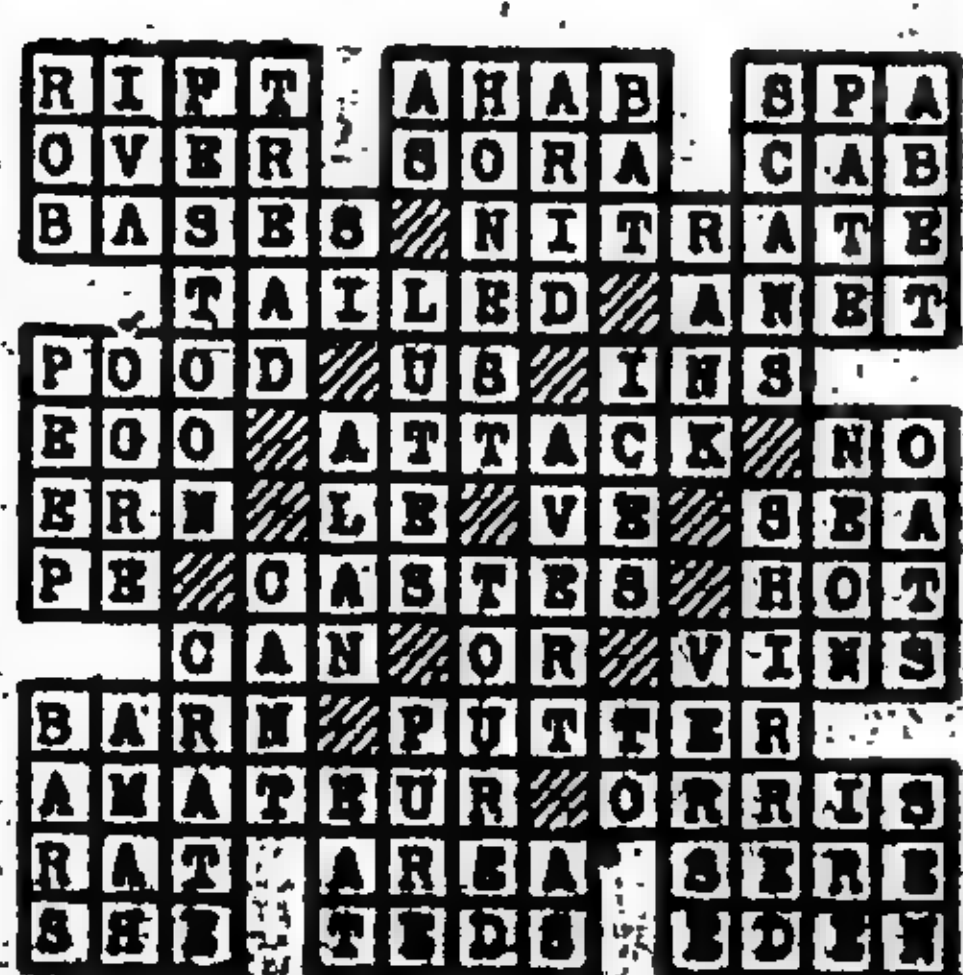
HORIZONTAL
 1 Pertaining
 to essence
 6 To clip
 11 Biological
 classes
 12 Mixture of
 fibres
 14 Pronoun
 15 Bore
 17 Symbol for
 rhenium
 18 Energy
 20 Makes yarn
 21 Japanese coin
 22 Holland
 province
 24 To urge
 25 Quarrel
 26 To choose
 28 Parts of menu
 30 Grassland
 31 Through
 32 Contemns
 35 Cubic
 measures
 38 Hedges
 39 Chance
 41 Jewel weight
 42 Veil
 43 Parts of book
 45 Achieved

46 Latin: In
 addition
 47 To mature
 49 Hebrew letter
 50 To cease
 work
 52 Merchant
 54 Flowers
 55 Mediter-
 ranean isle

VERTICAL
 1 To happen
 2 Article
 3 Dry
 4 Cleopatra's
 maid
 5 Floor
 covering
 6 Old weapons
 7 Hastens

8 Conclusion
 9 Preposition
 10 To peruse
 again
 11 Presents
 13 Tears
 16 Outfit
 19 Trailing plants
 21 Small bird
 23 Arm of the
 sea (pl.)
 25 Snow and
 rain
 27 Container
 29 Likely
 32 Very thin
 33 Hauler
 34 Cuts thin
 35 Wheat-like
 grains
 38 Absconds
 37 More sensible
 40 Period
 43 French:
 father
 44 Rail
 47 Underworld
 god
 48 Knave in
 cards
 51 Preposition
 53 To act

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REGULAR AND FAST
 FREIGHT AND
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To UNITED KINGDOM PORTS

Two Well Placed Sailings During
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For dates and ports of call apply to Agents.

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 passage will gladly be given by —

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 bal, Boston, Philadelphia and Bal-
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 TEVIDEO & BUENOS AIRES via
 Singapore, Colombo, Durban and
 Cape Town

MOMBASA, ZANZIBAR, DAR-
 ESSA-LAAM, BEIRA, LOURENCO MAR-
 QUES, DURBAN, ALGOA BAY,
 CAPE TOWN & SOUTH AMERI-
 CAN PORTS via Singapore & Co-
 lombio

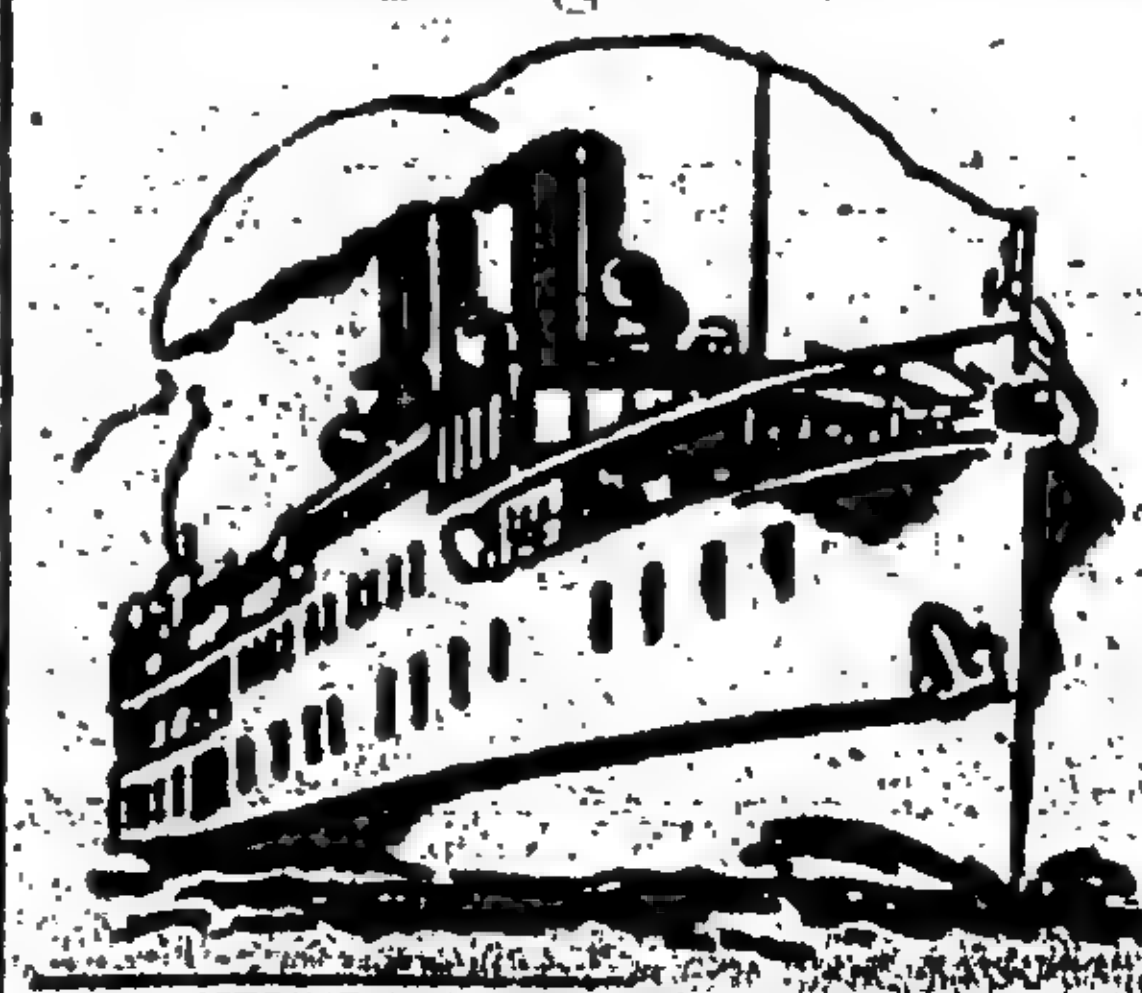
BOMBAY & KARACHI via Singa-
 pore, Penang and Colombo
 CALCUTTA via Singapore Belawan
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New M/V "BRASIL MARU"
 making her maiden voyage in
 January.

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DAILY SERVICE
 (including Sunday)

Note:—All vessels equipped with
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After The Dinner

many relish a full flavoured cheese to round off a perfect meal.

We have recently had shipments of the following:—

GORGONZOLA	\$1.90	per lb.
BEL PAESE	1.95	" "
KRAFT87	" "
AUSTRALIAN CHEDDAR82	" "
DUTCH CHEDDAR80	" "

**THE DAIRY FARM, ICE & COLD
STORAGE CO., LTD.**

Pure Food Specialists.

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CALLING AT MANILA, THURSDAY ISLAND,
CAIRNS, TOWNSVILLE, BRISBANE,
SYDNEY AND MELBOURNE, ETC.

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AT THE END OF DECEMBER

For Freight or Passage, apply to:—

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How To Help Children Enjoy Their Christmas.

For weeks children look forward to the festive season, counting the days to Christmas, and great is their disappointment if at this time they are laid low by sickness and unable to attend parties and enjoy the general fun. These same parties, too, frequently upset the delicate little stomachs.

One of the surest ways to keep children in good health and to ward off the ill-effects of too much rich food is to give an occasional dose of Baby's Own Tablets. These pleasant-tasting tablets have for forty years been the help of mothers and the friend of children, due to their absolute purity and proved efficacy.

The prescription of a medical child-specialist, Baby's Own Tablets are the ideal treatment in little children's health troubles. They speedily correct infantile constipation, settle upset stomach, relieve colic, check diarrhoea, allay simple fever, expel worms, ease teething pains, and are beneficial in cases of croup and colds. Obtainable at all chemists.

PUBLIC AUCTIONS

The Undersigned have received instructions from The Liquidators to sell by Public Auction on Friday, the 22nd. December, 1939, commencing at 10.30 a.m.

at the office of Messrs. Melchers & Co. (in liquidation),
Queen's Building

A Quantity of Office Furniture
2 Iron Safes
12 Typewriters

and
1 Dalton Adding Machine
On View on Day of Sale
LAMMERT BROS.,
Auctioneers.

Hong Kong, 20th Dec., 1939.

The Undersigned have received instructions from The Liquidators of Messrs. F. Feld & Co. (in liquidation) to sell by Public Auction on

Friday the 22nd. Dec., 1939

commencing at 2.30 p.m.
at the office of Messrs. F. Feld & Co. (in liquidation) Second Floor, French Bank Building, Queen's Road, Central
A Quantity of Office Furniture comprising:

Large Iron Safe, Typewriters, Desks, Chairs, Ceiling Fan, Electric Lights, Counter, Glass Showcases, Cupboards, etc., etc.
Terms: As Customary.
LAMMERT BROS.,
Auctioneers

Hong Kong, 19th December, 1939

**THE NEW FRENCH REMEDY.
THERAPION No. 1
THERAPION No. 2
THERAPION No. 3**
No. 1 Cures Discharges. No. 2 Cures Bladder Pains. No. 3 Cures Chronic Venereal Disease. English Price 3s. Chemists, or other Nearest Retail, DR. LE CLERC Med. Co. Haverstock Rd., N.W. London. DR. LE CLERC'S PILLS for the Liver & Kidneys—weak kidneys & bladder.

FIGHTING IN KAIFENG

Loyang, To-day.

A refugee from Kaifeng stated that street fighting was still going on in Kaifeng yesterday morning.

The city was drowned in explosions of bombs and the rat-tat-tat of machine-guns, and was shrouded in smoke.

The Chinese troops smashed into the city before dawn last Saturday. Confusion immediately prevailed. Several big fires were started and heavy explosions were heard from the Japanese ammunition dumps.—Central News.

NO LICENCE

Fung Kung, residing at No 75, Wellington Street, was summoned before Mr. R. A. D. Forrest at the Central Magistracy this morning for possession of a radio without a licence at No. 64, Stanley Street on December 7.

Mr. J. Key, of the G. P. O., told the Court that defendant was an unemployed house-boy. The set was given to him by his former employer, and the Postmaster-General was not pressing the case.

Defendant said he intended to get a licence as soon as he obtained employment.

Defendant was cautioned, and the radio ordered placed in custody of the Postmaster-General till defendant gets a licence.

CHINESE HIT BACK

Kweilin, To-day.

Chinese troops continue to push back the Japanese.

On the Nanning-Pinyang highway, they have advanced to Liutang and Wutang, 20 miles northeast of Nanning. Japanese reinforcements were intercepted at Liutang yesterday morning.

On the Nanning-Wuyang highway, the Chinese recaptured Kaofenggao, 14 miles north of Nanning.—Central News.

SOCCER REFEREES

The monthly meeting of the Football Referees' Association will be held to-morrow at 8 p.m. at the Office of the Football Association, Bank of Canton Building.

The following are among the several important items down for discussion.—To decide the date of the Referees v. Press Match; to consider the erection of a club-house.

The primary aim of the erection of a club-house is to have a rendezvous for giving lectures on the laws of the game to football players and fans as a means of improving relations on and off the field.

SCOTLAND'S TEAM

Scotland's team to meet England in the "Sunday Herald" Charity Cup on the Football Club ground on Tuesday at 3.30 p.m. was selected yesterday. Players are to report to Mr. W. Pryde, manager, in the dressing room at 3 p.m. Uniforms, shorts and stockings will be supplied.

The team is.—Duncan (Scots); A. Bone (Club); Blackburn (Police); Captain, Clarke (Scots); McEwin (Club); Williamson (Kowloon); Clarke (Scots); Munro (Scots); Pryde (Club); Hoesack (Scots); Ferrier (Police); Tait (Middlesex).

Reserves.—Dignan (Signals); Birrell (Engineers) and Gibb (Scots).

Miss Marie Spencer, of No. 57B, Wongsichung Road, has informed the Police that her handbag containing \$224.35 in money was stolen from the counter of the General Post Office yesterday afternoon.

INDO-CHINA

STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY, LTD.

OPERATING SERVICES FOR
CARGO and PASSENGERS

TO—SWATOW, SHANGHAI, TSINGTAO,
CHEFOO and TIENTSIN
KOBE and OSAKA
SINGAPORE, PENANG and CALCUTTA
SANDAKAN, HAIPHONG

All steamers berth alongside the Roosevelt Terminal in the French Concession at Shanghai, where passengers and cargo are landed.

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The British and French air forces, working in close co-operation, are carrying out magnificent work. In this photograph the fuselage of a big German plane is seen being towed through the streets of a French town, a trophy which will afford much valuable information to the Allies. (Copyright, Fox).

SUN FO'S TALKS IN LONDON

Chungking, To-day. Interesting details of interviews which Mr. Sun Fo had with Mr. Winston Churchill and Mr. Lloyd George in London during his recent visit, are revealed in an article published by the "Central Daily News," the official organ of the Chinese Government.

Mr. Sun Fo is said to have declared that when he was in London he listened to one of Mr. Churchill's broadcasts and was struck by the identity of his views to statements made by Chiang Kai-shek.

He called next day to see Mr. Churchill and told him his impressions.

Mr. Churchill, in reply, said that the purpose of Britain's war with Germany was similar to China's war against Japan, both being for resistance against aggression.

Mr. Sun Fo said that both Mr. Churchill and Mr. Lloyd George criticised the British Government's policy during recent years, saying that the present European situation was the result of appeasement.—Reuter.

Witty Kitty



The most priceless thing in the world is the ability of acquiring none but good habits.

JUSTICE AS BASIS FOR PEACE

Sir Edward Grigg, Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of Information, outlined in a speech at Altrincham, Cheshire, recently the principles on which peace would be based after the destruction of the "Satanic spirit in Germany." They were:

No territorial aggrandisement for ourselves;

No dictated peace, but a peace of agreement in which all peoples, including the German people, will play their part;

A striving for the economic welfare of Europe as a whole, not merely the victorious nations.

"Do not object to boredom." Sir Edward urged, "when every week of it means that we are stronger by comparison with our enemy and better prepared."

"Delayed action on our side does not mean that we have lost one jot of our determination to put an end to the terror which has been overshadowing Europe for the last three or four years."

The Ministry of Information had the vital function of keeping ever present to the world the justice and moral values of our cause. It had a great responsibility, and he hoped the public would come to regard it as part of our fighting front.

POSTMAN ACCUSED

Accused of stealing 23 letters between August 3 and December 14, Li King-fai, 21, postman, appeared before Mr. Q. A. A. Macfadyen this morning.

Bail of \$500 was allowed.

In connection with the case, Wong Sang, 40, and Li Kam-lam, 23, were charged with attempting to obtain \$130 from Tse Yun-sau, 31, married woman, by a forged letter purporting to come from a man in Boston.

Det.-Sgt. A. Shaw applied for one week's formal remand.

Mr. M. A. da Silva pleaded not guilty on behalf of the two defendants.

DEATH OF MRS. A. W. BURKILL

London, To-day. The death took place on Monday of Mrs. A. W. Burkill, wife of the well-known Shanghai talen.—Reuter.

A 6-year-old girl, Kwok Shiu-toa, was admitted to the Tung Wah Eastern Hospital yesterday after falling from the verandah of the second floor at No. 7, Second Lane, Tai Hang. She is in a serious condition.

"The lovely perfume you use haunts me always"

"It's the exquisite fragrance of ERASMIC OLD LONDON LAVENDER Toilet Soap"



Everybody adores the old-world scent of lavender. It is so delicate—so elusive—so intriguing. And this enchanting perfume retains all its charm in Erasmic Old London Lavender Toilet Soap.

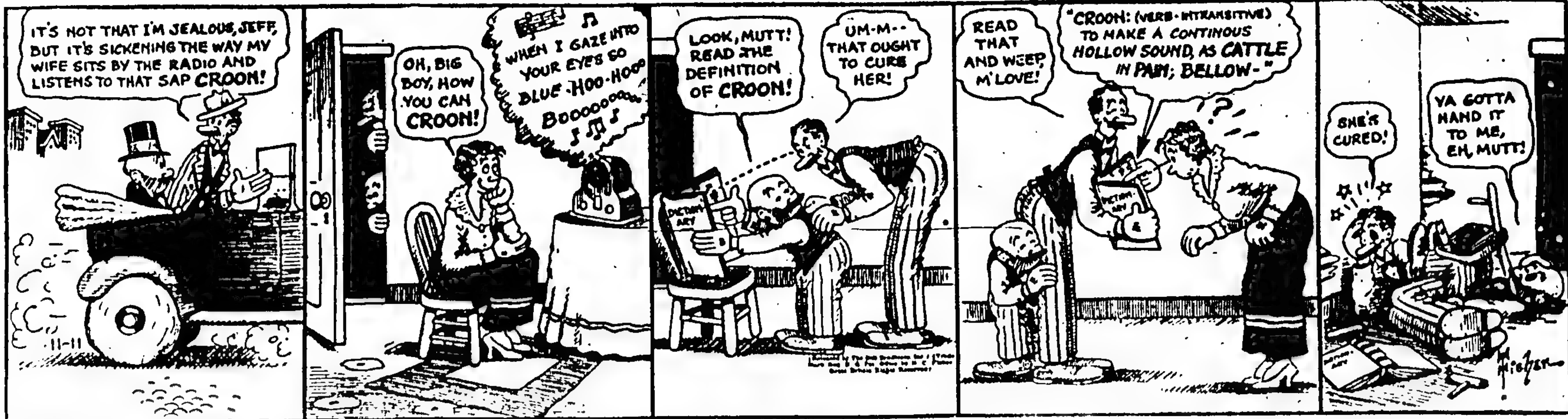
Here is a toilet soap of superb quality—rich creamy lather to keep your complexion beautiful—soft, smooth beauty treatment for your skin. You will be delighted with this lovely soap, the perfume of which has been tested and proved by time itself.

ERASMIC
Old London LAVENDER
TOILET SOAP

AGENTS—JARDINE, MATHESON & CO. LTD.

MUTT AND JEFF

By BUD FISHER



A Christmas Party
Game From
The Studio

6.00 p.m.—DANCE MUSIC.
6.58 p.m.—Closing Local Stock Quota-
tions.
7.00 p.m.—LONDON RELAY — New
Parlour Game "Xmas Shopping".
Members of C. B. Cochran's Revue
"Lights Up" v. B.B.C. Repertoire
Company. Produced by Neil Munro.
7.30 p.m.—LONDON RELAY — The
News.
8.00 p.m.—Local Time Signal, Weather
Report and Announcements.
8.03 p.m.—MILITARY Band Music.
La Tarantelle De Belphegor (Roch

To-day's Wireless

ZBW 355 M. (845 k.c.'s) and 31.49 M.
9.52 Megacycles

Albert).... The B.B.C. Military
Band cond. by B. Walton O'Don-
nell.
Sousa Marches On (Medley of Sousa
Marches).... Regimental Band of
H.M. Grenadier Guards.
8.15 p.m.—STUDIO — A Christmas
Party Game.
8.45 p.m.—Marek Weber and His Or-

chestra with Nelson Eddy (Baritone)
and Nan Maryska (Soprano).
9.05 p.m.—STUDIO — Comments on
Recent Events.
9.15 p.m.—LONDON RELAY — News
Summary.
9.20 p.m.—Selected Piano Solos.
Study in C Sharp Minor, Op. 10, No.
4 (Chopin); Study in G Flat Ma-

"Don Giovanni" Act 1
& Marek Weber's
Orchestra

for, Op. 10, No. 5 (Chopin); Ma-
zurka In C Sharp Minor, Op. 50,
No. 3 (Chopin).... Vladimir Ho-
rowitz (Piano).
Scenes From Childhood (Schumann)
.... Yves Nat (Piano).
9.40 p.m.—MOZART'S "Don Giovanni"
Act 1. Glyndebourne Festival Opera
Company conducted by Fritz Busch.
Singers in order of appearance:
Baccaloni; Souez; Brownlee; Fran-
klin; Pataky; Helletsgruber; Mild-
may and Henderson.
11.00 p.m.—CLOSE DOWN.

Winning CONTRACT

(By The Four Aces)

David Bruce Burnstone, Merwin D. Maier, Oswald Jacoby, Howard Schen-
ken... World's leading Team-of-Four, Inventors of the system that has
beaten every other system in existence.

CARD SENSE

That elusive quality known as
"card sense" is merely common sense
applied to the game of Bridge. Here
is a hand well played by Theodore A.
Lightner, who is unusually gifted with
that faculty.

West, Dealer
Both sides vulnerable
♠ 8 7 5 4
♥ K 2
♦ 9 6 3
♣ Q 10 8 6
♠ 3
♥ 10 9 8 7
♦ K Q 5 2
♣ J 9 7
N
W E
S
♠ A K J 10 9
♥ J 6 3
♦ A 5 4 2
♣ A 5 4 2
Mr. Lightner
The bidding:
West North East South
Pass Pass 1♦ 2♠
3♦ 3♠ Pass 4♠
Pass Pass Pass

West opened the King of diamonds
and after winning Mr. Lightner laid
down the Ace of
spades, then led a
heart. After captu-
ring dummy's King,
East returned a dia-
mond, which Mr.
Lightner trumped. The
Jack of hearts was
now played. East won
with the Queen and
led a third diamond.
Mr. Lightner now trumped his re-
maining heart in dummy, then led a
trump and finessed the Jack. After
this successful play he led a small club
and played the Ace from dummy,
forcing East's King. Mr. Lightner
then won the remaining tricks.
Now his partner inquired admiring-
ly, "How did you place the cards so
accurately?"

"The opening lead marked a West
with the King and Queen of dia-
monds," Mr. Lightner replied. "This
left very few high cards remaining to
justify an opening vulnerable bid by
East. Hence, he was automatically
marked with both the Ace of hearts
and King of clubs. Therefore, my
only problem was whether to finesse
for the Queen of spades or play for
the drop. I then remembered that
West had raised his partner to three
diamonds, and his high cards
were the King-Queen of that suit.
Unless West held a singleton spade,
his double raise would have been
quite unsound."

These little clues are used by all
experts in their play of the dummy.
As the brokers say: "This informa-
tion, while not guaranteed, is believed
to be reliable."

Yesterday you were Howard Schen-
ken's partner and held:

♠ K Q 9 4
♥ A 10 7
♦ 7 5 3
♣ 9 8 2

The bidding:
Schenken Burnstone You Jacoby
1♥ Pass (?)

ANSWER: Your correct bid is two
hearts. It is very doubtful whether
this hand is worth two bids. Hence
it is best to show your trump support
immediately.

Score 100% for two hearts, 80%
for one spade, 20% for one notrump.

QUESTION NO. 288
You are the dealer and hold:

♠ K 7
♥ A 9 6 3
♦ A K 10 2
♣ K 10 9

What do you bid? (Answer
Monday.)

(Released by The Bell Syndicate,
Inc.)

HOCKEY

SAPPERS' BIG VICTORY

(By "SPORTSHAWK")

At Sookunpoo, yesterday
afternoon, Royal Engineers,
who fielded their best eleven,
defeated a weak team from
Kowloon Indian Tennis Club
in the "Association" hockey
tournament by 5 goals to 1
after leading by two clear
goals at the interval.

L/Sgt. Homburg, in the centre,
and the left-wing combination of
Cpl. Bowling and L/Cpl. Singleton,
were very hard workers and formed
a dangerous attacking wing.

Their defence was best served by
L/Sgt. Goodwin, left back, and Sgt.
Dobson, between the sticks, while
Sgt. Croston was outstanding in the
intermediate line.

Indians were short a left-winger
throughout, were much too slow and
indulged in too much individual work.
Pyara Singh, centre, and Man
Singh, inside left, were the only pro-
minent forwards, while Mohinder
Singh, right half, was fairly good.
Karnal Singh, right back, and Muhd
Singh, the goalie, also did very well.

HOMBURG ON THE MARK

L/Sgt. Homburg, who possesses

nice stick work, scored the first two
goals for the Sappers; one from a
pass from his right winger, the other
on his own. Sgt. Croston added a
further goal just before the interval.
Spr. Marriott, inside left, had his
right hand injured when he received
a nasty knock. He was not
available in the second half.

After resumption, neither side
was able to get a shot in at goal
until the last five minutes, when Cpl.
Bowling registered the fourth and
the final goal for the Sappers.

K.I.T.C. made great efforts and
Man Singh, nicely supported by Pyara
Singh, netted their one and only goal
just before time.

Royal Engineers'—Sgt. Dobson; Lt. Rus-
sell and L/Sgt. Goodwin; Cpl. Saxby, Sgt.
Croston and Cpl. Whitaker; L/Cpl. Single-
ton, Cpl. Bowling; L/Sgt. Homburg; Spr.
Marriott and Spr. Ellesley.

K.I.T.C.—Muhd Singh; Karnal Singh and
Kalwant Singh; Mohinder Singh, Kishan
Singh and Bagh Singh; Gurbachan Singh,
Attar Singh, Man Singh, Pyara Singh and
(no left-winger).

H.K.C.C. TEAMS

The following teams will represent Hong
Kong Cricket Club against Club de Re-
creo on Saturday, at 2.00 p.m.

1st XI at Club de Re-creo—T. A. Pe-
trée (Capt.), D. de S. Carey, G. P. Charlton, D.
G. Day, A. H. Finnie, J. H. Fox, R. D.
Gillespie, M. F. L. Haymes, J. L. Isley,
J. L. C. Pearce and L. T. Ride.
2nd XI at H.K.C.C.—E. J. R. Mitchell
(Capt.), C. W. E. Bishop, H. J. D. Lowe,
Broadier T. MacLeod, A. K. Mackenzie, D.
O. Parsons, R. S. W. Paterson, J. E. Potter,
D. S. Robb, W. Straker and T. M. Sulter.

E. C. Fincher and G. C. Burnett (—40)
beat A. Crawford and R. T. Broadbridge
(—30) 7-5, 6-4 yesterday to enter the
Final of Kowloon Cricket Club's annual
men's handicap doubles tennis tournament.



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HONG KONG HOTEL; REPULSE BAY HOTEL;
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CRICKET NOTES

GOOD BATTING IN MATCH
BETWEEN H.K.C.C. & K.C.C.

M.A. Remedios & Lewis Show Promise At Recreio

W. L. CLARKE'S IMPROVED
BATTING CAPABILITIES

(By "ADREM")

Feature of the present cricket season has been the comparatively few games played by senior teams. On Saturday only two First Division teams were engaged, Kowloon Cricket Club entertaining their old rivals Hong Kong Cricket Club.

Generally, scoring was on the high side, with one notable exception, the match at Sookunpoo between Royal Air Force and Indian Recreio Club juniors.

The wicket at Kowloon on Saturday was conducive to big scoring, it being soft and, although susceptible to spin, the ball was coming off slowly.

Were Lloyd playing for K. C. C. there might have been a different story to tell. Without him Alec Pearce and L. T. Ride did more or less as they liked although Robbie Lee bowled more overs at a stretch than he has done hitherto this season, and Anderson had so much additional work to do that he was attacked by cramp after the game.

Ride was a bit shaky at the outset of his innings but settled down to play good confident cricket, finding the boundary on 11 occasions.

Pearce was as bright as ever and although study of the score-book does not reveal it, I am told that he hit a really colossal six which cleared the sight-screen at the Austin Road end and landed half-way across Kowloon Bowling Green Club.

Rapley, who bowls left, was given one of his infrequent turns with the ball but proved extraordinarily expensive.

LIFELESS FIELDING

Although not many catches were put down, Kowloon's fielding was entirely lacking in life and was in strict contrast to the improvement in this department evident in previous matches.

Club's bowlers were even less impressive than Kowloon's and it appeared at one stage that the home team might get the runs. Anderson was slow, as he always is at the beginning of an innings, but he did not get a great deal of the bowling.

I saw Ernie Fincher bat for the first time since his return from leave and was very impressed with his form. His visits to first-class matches in England have evidently taught him a great deal—for example a late cut between first and second slip that I don't recollect having seen him play with such timing before! He was very severe on anything loose and hooked powerfully.

Anderson was eventually caught in the gully by Gillespie in forcing the pace and Fincher picked a perfect ball from Alec Pearce and was clean-bowled.

Rapley got out to one of the stupidist "strokes" I have ever been unfortunate enough to see!

John Pearce bowled a ball in the best John Pearce (1939) manner! It bounced just in front of him, Rapley played a feeble sort of shot and was yorked on the second bounce!

WOMEN WHO WANT
TO STAY SLIM...

can do so by learning to bowl. Bowling finishes just enough exercise for office workers and housewives. And it's easy to learn! We'll give you all the instruction you need. Try it to-day.

HONG KONG
BOWLING ALLEYS

100, 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 106, 107, 108, 109, 110, 111, 112, 113, 114, 115, 116, 117, 118, 119, 120, 121, 122, 123, 124, 125, 126, 127, 128, 129, 130, 131, 132, 133, 134, 135, 136, 137, 138, 139, 140, 141, 142, 143, 144, 145, 146, 147, 148, 149, 150, 151, 152, 153, 154, 155, 156, 157, 158, 159, 160, 161, 162, 163, 164, 165, 166, 167, 168, 169, 170, 171, 172, 173, 174, 175, 176, 177, 178, 179, 180, 181, 182, 183, 184, 185, 186, 187, 188, 189, 190, 191, 192, 193, 194, 195, 196, 197, 198, 199, 200, 201, 202, 203, 204, 205, 206, 207, 208, 209, 210, 211, 212, 213, 214, 215, 216, 217, 218, 219, 220, 221, 222, 223, 224, 225, 226, 227, 228, 229, 230, 231, 232, 233, 234, 235, 236, 237, 238, 239, 240, 241, 242, 243, 244, 245, 246, 247, 248, 249, 250, 251, 252, 253, 254, 255, 256, 257, 258, 259, 260, 261, 262, 263, 264, 265, 266, 267, 268, 269, 270, 271, 272, 273, 274, 275, 276, 277, 278, 279, 280, 281, 282, 283, 284, 285, 286, 287, 288, 289, 290, 291, 292, 293, 294, 295, 296, 297, 298, 299, 300, 301, 302, 303, 304, 305, 306, 307, 308, 309, 310, 311, 312, 313, 314, 315, 316, 317, 318, 319, 320, 321, 322, 323, 324, 325, 326, 327, 328, 329, 330, 331, 332, 333, 334, 335, 336, 337, 338, 339, 340, 341, 342, 343, 344, 345, 346, 347, 348, 349, 350, 351, 352, 353, 354, 355, 356, 357, 358, 359, 360, 361, 362, 363, 364, 365, 366, 367, 368, 369, 370, 371, 372, 373, 374, 375, 376, 377, 378, 379, 380, 381, 382, 383, 384, 385, 386, 387, 388, 389, 390, 391, 392, 393, 394, 395, 396, 397, 398, 399, 400, 401, 402, 403, 404, 405, 406, 407, 408, 409, 410, 411, 412, 413, 414, 415, 416, 417, 418, 419, 420, 421, 422, 423, 424, 425, 426, 427, 428, 429, 430, 431, 432, 433, 434, 435, 436, 437, 438, 439, 440, 441, 442, 443, 444, 445, 446, 447, 448, 449, 450, 451, 452, 453, 454, 455, 456, 457, 458, 459, 460, 461, 462, 463, 464, 465, 466, 467, 468, 469, 470, 471, 472, 473, 474, 475, 476, 477, 478, 479, 480, 481, 482, 483, 484, 485, 486, 487, 488, 489, 490, 491, 492, 493, 494, 495, 496, 497, 498, 499, 500, 501, 502, 503, 504, 505, 506, 507, 508, 509, 510, 511, 512, 513, 514, 515, 516, 517, 518, 519, 520, 521, 522, 523, 524, 525, 526, 527, 528, 529, 530, 531, 532, 533, 534, 535, 536, 537, 538, 539, 540, 541, 542, 543, 544, 545, 546, 547, 548, 549, 550, 551, 552, 553, 554, 555, 556, 557, 558, 559, 560, 561, 562, 563, 564, 565, 566, 567, 568, 569, 570, 571, 572, 573, 574, 575, 576, 577, 578, 579, 580, 581, 582, 583, 584, 585, 586, 587, 588, 589, 590, 591, 592, 593, 594, 595, 596, 597, 598, 599, 600, 601, 602, 603, 604, 605, 606, 607, 608, 609, 610, 611, 612, 613, 614, 615, 616, 617, 618, 619, 620, 621, 622, 623, 624, 625, 626, 627, 628, 629, 630, 631, 632, 633, 634, 635, 636, 637, 638, 639, 640, 641, 642, 643, 644, 645, 646, 647, 648, 649, 650, 651, 652, 653, 654, 655, 656, 657, 658, 659, 660, 661, 662, 663, 664, 665, 666, 667, 668, 669, 670, 671, 672, 673, 674, 675, 676, 677, 678, 679, 680, 681, 682, 683, 684, 685, 686, 687, 688, 689, 690, 691, 692, 693, 694, 695, 696, 697, 698, 699, 700, 701, 702, 703, 704, 705, 706, 707, 708, 709, 710, 711, 712, 713, 714, 715, 716, 717, 718, 719, 720, 721, 722, 723, 724, 725, 726, 727, 728, 729, 730, 731, 732, 733, 734, 735, 736, 737, 738, 739, 740, 741, 742, 743, 744, 745, 746, 747, 748, 749, 750, 751, 752, 753, 754, 755, 756, 757, 758, 759, 760, 761, 762, 763, 764, 765, 766, 767, 768, 769, 770, 771, 772, 773, 774, 775, 776, 777, 778, 779, 780, 781, 782, 783, 784, 785, 786, 787, 788, 789, 790, 791, 792, 793, 794, 795, 796, 797, 798, 799, 800, 801, 802, 803, 804, 805, 806, 807, 808, 809, 810, 811, 812, 813, 814, 815, 816, 817, 818, 819, 820, 821, 822, 823, 824, 825, 826, 827, 828, 829, 830, 831, 832, 833, 834, 835, 836, 837, 838, 839, 840, 841, 842, 843, 844, 845, 846, 847, 848, 849, 850, 851, 852, 853, 854, 855, 856, 857, 858, 859, 860, 861, 862, 863, 864, 865, 866, 867, 868, 869, 870, 871, 872, 873, 874, 875, 876, 877, 878, 879, 880, 881, 882, 883, 884, 885, 886, 887, 888, 889, 890, 891, 892, 893, 894, 895, 896, 897, 898, 899, 900, 901, 902, 903, 904, 905, 906, 907, 908, 909, 910, 911, 912, 913, 914, 915, 916, 917, 918, 919, 920, 921, 922, 923, 924, 925, 926, 927, 928, 929, 930, 931, 932, 933, 934, 935, 936, 937, 938, 939, 940, 941, 942, 943, 944, 945, 946, 947, 948, 949, 950, 951, 952, 953, 954, 955, 956, 957, 958, 959, 960, 961, 962, 963, 964, 965, 966, 967, 968, 969, 970, 971, 972, 973, 974, 975, 976, 977, 978, 979, 980, 981, 982, 983, 984, 985, 986, 987, 988, 989, 990, 991, 992, 993, 994, 995, 996, 997, 998, 999, 1000.

E. C. Fincher started to crack them as soon as he went in and was eventually well taken by Gillespie in the deep. Alec Pearce was the only member of the Cricket Club attack who looked like a bowler.

PROMISE OF REMEDIOS

Features of the match at King's Park between Recreio Juniors and Police were the excellent batting of youthful M. A. Remedios and W. L. Clarke, and the promising bowling of left-handed J. Lewis.

Remedios, a La Salle boy of the same term as the youngest Gosano, has always been considered promising by the Recreio authorities but never appeared able to get runs, apparently through lack of temperament.

He has been persevered with, however, and being sent in early consistently, has now begun to have its effect.

He played a really fine innings on Saturday against the by no means weak Police attack, to make a correct 36 not out. "Polly" Xavier also batted well for his 25 and together with A. J. M. Prata, put on a useful score for the first wicket.

Pope took three wickets in his last over but the finest bowling was that of Lewis.

Starting somewhat shakily, he later found a length and his disconcerting flight had all the Recreio batsmen in difficulties.

He has a nice easy action, and is inclined to bring them in from the off, the wrong way for a left-hander; he should have a good season if given enough work.

"Nobby" Clarke's innings was the Police innings and he saved his side from complete rout.

CLARKE'S DEVELOPMENT

I have always had the impression that "Nobby" was a hitter and that alone. He has now, evidently, developed into quite a class batsman. He played some very pretty shots in the course of 42 not out on Saturday as well as defending dourly when the occasion demanded.

A. V. Gosano bowled steadily to take 5 for 18, while Prata and Remedios both got cheap wicket near the end.

Recreio did not appear to be trying too hard to get Police out as they used several bowlers who normally would not have been used under the circumstances.

The complete failure of R.A.F. batsmen cost them their game against I.R.C. It certainly was not due to J. Waddington that they lost. This bowler performed brilliantly to take 6 for 24, including the hat-trick but Gillespie was rather expensive and so the Airmen lost what little chance they had of scoring a spectacular win.

Batting first, R.A.F. were skittled out by M. R. Abbas and Y. T. Barma for 47, only C. M. King running into double-figures.

Air Force made a great fight of it and had a chance of winning until A. R. Suffiad settled down to some hard hitting to score 21 not out near the end and win the match for the Indians.

TALL SCORING

Run-getting was a fairly simple matter at Chater Road, where nearly 300 runs were scored for the loss of only 15 wickets.

Club, batting first, ran up the useful total of 174 to which H. J. D. Lowe, D. O. Parsons and A. K. Mackenzie were chief contributors.

At close of play University had scored 109 for 5. K. Y. Tam batting attractively for 53. A. J. Hulse was the highlight of the drawn game at the Valley between Crutchever and Middlesex Regiments. Williams bowled very well for the soldiers to take 4 for 28 in 10 overs, while Hamson who has not distinguished himself in this department for years, took 4 Middlesex wickets for 27. Cutler top-scored for the Army team with 28.

Kowloon Juniors, who are verily playing like champions having won all their recent matches with unflinching regularity, proved much too good for Civil Servants at the Valley and won by 8 wickets.

Cutler, who is a definite find, again had the best R.C.C. analysis, while Baldwin and Pope also bowled well. C.S.C. were dismissed for 41 which was knocked off by Mulcahy, B. D. Lee and Bennett.

Baldwin later came in to finish in some big hitting and make 33 runs including a century.

COLONY TENNIS

MRS. SMEBY,
MRS. KEVAN
UNLUCKY

The following result in the Ladies' Colony Doubles Tennis Tournament is noted: — Mrs. Sweeney and Mrs. Knight beat Miss Greig and Miss Marr 6—2, 6—1 in the second round.

A further match was played at K.C.C. yesterday. Mrs. Smoby and Mrs. Kevan, leading Mrs. Lade and Mrs. Churchill by 5—2 in the final set were unable to win another game.

Full scores were: Mrs. Lade and Mrs. Churchill beat Mrs. Smoby and Mrs. Kevan 6—4, 5—7, 7—5.

(Continued from next Column)

MIDDLEWEIGHT

(1st string) L/Cpl. Wookey (HQ) beat Malham (C), Cpl. Manning (B) beat Cpl. Bedding (D).

(2nd string) Pte. Marable (A) beat Pte. Morgan (D), L/Cpl. Wilson (HQ) k.o. L/Cpl. Goodman (B).

(3rd string) Pte. Williams (HQ) beat Pte. Bennett (C).

WELTERWEIGHT

(1st string) L/Cpl. Shaw (C) beat Pte. Thomson (HQ).

(2nd string) Pte. Bridge (HQ) beat Pte. Hurlock (A).

(3rd string) L/Cpl. Colebeck (C) beat Pte. Claridge (A).

(4th string) Pte. Cohen (A) k.o. Dmr. Onslow (HQ).

LIGHTWEIGHT

(1st string) L/Cpl. Williams (HQ) t.k.o. Pte. Buller (D).

(2nd string) A/Cpl. Miller (HQ) beat Pte. Carrigan (C).

(3rd string) Pte. Day (A) beat Pte. Funnel (D).

FEATHERWEIGHT

Pte. Cumberford (D) gave Bds. Bolan (HQ) a walk-over.

BANTAMWEIGHT

Pte. Tait (B) k.o. Pte. Clarke (D), Dmr. Dewbury (HQ) beat Pte. Hooper (C).

(Continued at foot of preceding Col.)

BOXING

CLARIDGE'S
PROMISE

By LEN COLLINS

(Former Amateur light-weight champion of Great Britain.)

Last night's boxing in the Middlesex Regiment Inter-Company Novices' competition was not really bad, there being eight knock-outs. The majority of the bouts, however, were not very scientific.

Best bout of the evening was between Pte. Claridge and L/Cpl. Colebeck. Under the Army rules Colebeck won but had the bout been fought outside these rules there is little doubt that Claridge would have secured the verdict. A draw last night would not have been an unfair result.

Claridge hits very hard and would make a good boy if handled right.

Next best bout was between Pte. Corrigan and Cpl. Miller. The latter had the longer reach of the two but was unable to land any telling blows. This was a very close fight.

Remainder of the bouts were not

Len Collins' exclusive comments on to-night's bouts will appear in the final edition of the "China Mail" to-morrow.

worthy of comment.

The tournament will continue at 7.30 p.m. to-day.

Headquarters is leading with 50 points, followed by "A" Coy. 38, "B" Coy. 35, "C" Coy. 34, and "D" Coy. 30.

HEAVYWEIGHT

Pte. Bridle (C) k.o. Pte. Jennings (A), Pte. Flood (HQ) k.o. Pte. Ellis (D).

LIGHT HEAVYWEIGHT

Pte. Revell (HQ) k.o. Pte. Newman (C), Pte. Webb (A) t.k.o. Pte. Bayner (D).

(Continued at foot of preceding Col.)

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RACING

AMAZING SUM INVESTED IN SATURDAY'S "DOUBLE"

Mr. Encarnacao's Great Effort On Rose Fiana

ANDERSON PLAYING FOR K.C.C.

(By ADREM)

There are two "B" Division badminton matches on the fixture-list for to-night, chief interest being the first appearance of Recreo in this division.

On paper, their team is a very powerful one, including as it does, H.

A. Barros, who for several seasons has played in Senior Division, and a nice blend of experience and youth.

At the moment of writing the V.R.C. team is not available but it will have to be a very good one to take points from Recreo this evening.

Normally in forecasting the result of the other game—Kowloon Tong is entertaining K.C.C.—I should have little hesitation in naming the former easy winners. The return of J. L. Anderson to the Colony, however, places rather a different complexion on matters.

He will partner B. Kevan, thus giving K.C.C. two good pairs in Fisher and Wynter-Blyth and Anderson and Kevan. Madar and Curtis might also take a game. The home team should win on their own courts but they

(Continued at foot of Next Col.)

MR. BLACK WINS TWO CHAMPIONS EVENTS

(By "RAPIER")

The 1939 local racing season was brought to a successful conclusion on Saturday when Hong Kong Jockey Club's Thirteenth Extra Meeting was held in fine weather before a record crowd of racing enthusiasts.

Great interest was shown in this meeting owing to the combined pool in the "Daily Double," the sum of \$7,523 having been carried forward from the last meeting, and the astounding sum of \$58,361 having been invested with the object of winning this amount.

This undoubtedly constitutes a record which will stand for a long time.

Mr. C. Encarnacao secured a win and three thirds in six outings to finish up Champion Jockey for the second year in succession with 34 wins, Mr. V. V. Needa being second with 25 wins.

Congratulations must, however, be extended to Mr. D. Black for winning two Champions events in the same afternoon—incidentally his win on A Grand Time paid out the best dividend of the day, in the Queensland Autumn Champions.

Mr. L. Dunbar headed the owners' list with one win and two seconds, his Confusion Bay winning the Griffins Champions and Baffin Bay coming in second in the Australian Champions.

DISAPPOINTING RACE

The first race, the Hong Kong Autumn Champions, was most disappointing, only Confusion Bay (Mr. Black) and Hectic View (Mr. Pih) facing the starter. Hectic View took the lead from the outset with Confusion Bay apparently satisfied to remain two lengths behind. This position was maintained until after the football stands were passed, when Confusion Bay crept up level to take the lead after passing the Rock. Thereafter the result was never in doubt.

The Laggard's Handicap over six furlongs for "C" Class non-winning Australian ponies that have started in at least two Extra meetings, had a rather tame finish. Pumpnickel (Mr. Proulx) shot out immediately on the rise of the barrier and led all the way round. There was a keen struggle between Brutus (Mr. Pih), which suffered from a bad start, and Macquarie River (Mr. Black) for second place, which the latter just managed to secure.

Third race of the afternoon, the Dilatory Handicap, confined to Subs, of this season that had not won more than \$1000 in stakes, saw the favourite, Matador (Mr. Liang), beat Heddon (Mr. P. P. Botelho) by a head for a good win.

Dow-Jones (Mr. Hearne) took the lead, followed by Rose Day (Mr. Pan) a length behind and Geordie (Mr. Wood). On passing the Rock Geordie took the lead, which it maintained until nearing the last quarter, when Mr. Liang sent Matador, hotly pursued by Gog (Mr. Needa), Heddon (Mr. Botelho) and Smiling Time (Mr. Encarnacao), into the lead. Gog gave up the chase near the band stand and, despite their efforts, Heddon and Smiling Time had to be satisfied with second and third places, respectively.

KING KONG WINS IN A CANTER

The Hong Kong Sub-Griffins Autumn Champions, which was the fourth event on the programme, saw King Kong, ridden by Mr. Chao, win without being fully extended in a race devoid of interest. Musketeer (Mr. Liang), as usual, took the lead followed by King Kong and Celtic Star (Mr. Encarnacao). On the straight being reached, King Kong asserted itself and gradually moved away. Musketeer made a comeback effort but had to be satisfied with second place. Celtic Star was third and last.

The Tardy Handicap, over a mile and the

would do well not to take the opposition too lightly.

Teams—
Kowloon Tong—R. E. Lee and F. S. Ko;
A. Chan and N. A. E. Mackay; A. E. H. Castro and P. H. C. Fletcher.
K.C.C.—P. Wynter-Blyth and A. L. Fisher;
B. C. Kevan and J. L. Anderson; T. Madar and E. Curtis.
Recreo—R. Marques and H. Gonzalez;
H. A. Barros and A. E. Xavier; D. Yvanovitch and N. Saltrao.

first leg of the "Daily Double," marked the downfall of Potentate, the favourite, which was unplaced. Oak Bay (Mr. Tang) shot out on the rise of the barrier followed by Expansion Time (Mr. Needa). Potentate (Mr. Encarnacao), Jennifer (Mr. Proulx) and New Star (Mr. Pan). This order was maintained until nearing the half-mile post when Mr. Proulx sent Jennifer forward to take a brief lead. Oak Bay, however, overtook it at the Village Bend. Coming into the straight it appeared that the finish would be fought out between Potentate, Expansion Time and Oak Bay, but the first two gave up the struggle near the post, to be displaced by New Star and Humdrum Eve.

NEW STAR'S BURST

Meanwhile New Star came up on Oak Bay like a flash to pass it on the post and win a grand race by a short head. Humdrum Eve was a close third.

The last of the big events, the Queensland Autumn Champions, produced an upset, with three "B" Class ponies taking first, second and third places.

Courting Eve (Mr. Pih) and Lancashire Chips (Mr. Hearne) were strongly supported, but failed dismally.

Lancashire Chips took the lead, followed by A Grand Time (Mr. Black), A Roaring Time (Mr. Needa) and Tornado Star (Mr. Pan). After passing The Rock it still led from A Grand Time, Chiltern (Mr. Encarnacao) and Baffin Bay (Mr. P. P. Botelho). On the home stretch being reached, Lancashire Chips, although still running strongly, was passed by A Grand Time, which romped home an easy winner.

A thrilling battle between Lancashire Chips, Baffin Bay and Chiltern saw Baffin Bay secure second place, with Chiltern third.

THE VITAL "SECOND LEG"

There were altogether 2,776 successful nominations of New Star as winner of the first leg of the "Daily Double," and most tickets, 888, on the second leg were on Taxing Master, with 503 on Boolat Bay and 470 on Galveston Bay.

Rose Fiana (Mr. Encarnacao), carrying 167 lbs., created a surprise when it won.

This pony failed to gain a place in the Shum Chun Handicap (First Section) over the mile at the 11th Extra Meeting, when carrying 152 lbs., although it won the Gorbals Handicap (First Section) over six furlongs at the last meeting, carrying 150 lbs.

Dawn Star (Mr. Pan) took the lead followed by National Pride (Mr. Ip Kuy-ying) and Galveston Bay (Mr. Hearne). This position was maintained until the half-mile post, when Dawn Star and National Pride began to lose ground and Soldier of Britain (Mr. Fung) came out of the rack to take the lead. Galveston Bay, Boolat Bay (Mr. Needa) and Rose Fiana followed in that order. On reaching the Village Bend, that old-timer Soldier of Britain had such a commanding lead that Mr. Needa had to apply pressure to Boolat Bay to get within striking distance. Boolat Bay, on passing Soldier of Britain, looked every inch a winner, but Galveston Bay came up strongly on the outside to overhaul it near the Members' Stand.

Meanwhile Rose Fiana, which was on the rails, came up to snatch victory from Galveston Bay by a length with Boolat Bay another ¼ length behind.

There were 235 tickets on Rose Fiana in the double, and the fairly substantial dividend of \$248.30 was paid on each.

MR. PIH ALMOST THROWN

The last race of the day and the year, the Final Handicap, saw Mr. Pih, on Night View, the favourite, nearly thrown twice. Piet Hein (Mr. Needa) forced the pace from the start, with Lancashire Chap (Mr. Fung) well behind. Coming up to The Rock Mr. Fung, on Lancashire Chap, drew level with Piet Hein but was unable to pass it. Fifty yards from the post Mr. Pih began to apply the whip to Night View which set up a terrific burst of speed, to snatch a win from Piet Hein. Lancashire Chap, however, could not overhaul Piet Hein, but forced but Lancashire Chap for second place.

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Vol. IX, No. 4.

ARTICLES

New Realism in Chinese Politics, by T. C. Lin
The Aesthetics of Surrealism, by Charles J. Gluckeberg
A Portuguese Account of East Asia in 1514, by J. M. Braga

CHRONICLE

Cinema Chronicle, by Tu Heng

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Twenty-Four Chinese Poems, Translated by N. L. Smith and R. H. Kottewall
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ITALY'S QUIET SEAT ON THE FENCE

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

Rome, To-day.

PRESS COMMENTS ON THE recent speech by Count Ciano, the Foreign Minister, give interesting indications of Italy's international position. The "Tribuna" says: "Count Ciano's speech stressed two points—the untimeliness of Germany's action from the viewpoint of the mutual Italo-German undertakings, and the intervention of the Soviet, a factor which was brought to Italy's knowledge only on the eve of signature of the Soviet-German pact."

KARELIAN BATTLE

Helsinki, To-day.

An official communique states that in the Karelian Isthmus, the enemy launched attacks of great force during yesterday. By evening, all attacks which had resulted in the enemy gaining foothold in the Finnish positions had been repulsed.

The enemy suffered losses of men and tanks.

On the Eastern Front, enemy attacks between Koirnoja and Syskyjaervi were repulsed and successful Finnish offensives near Lake Agla-jaervi continued. Many prisoners and

"Corriere Padano" declares: "We consider that Russia's intervention concerns Germany alone, as Count Ciano was not informed up to August 21 of the Russo-German pact."

"Italy, on the other hand, has not deviated from the spirit and letter of the German-Italian pact, providing for consultations."—Havas.

WEATHER REPORT

The Royal Observatory reports that a moderate anticyclone covers China and Japan. It is decreasing in intensity and is moving eastwards. The depression is situated to the east of Luzon, moving east-north-east or north-east.

a considerable amount of war material were captured.—Reuter.

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Kwong Chow Wan, To-day.

Skirmishes have occurred in areas west of Nanning where the Japanese are apparently attempting to drive to Lungchow, near the French Indo-China border.

This morning Japanese planes were over Lungchow but no bombs were dropped.

It is also reported that General Chen Chien and General Li Chai-sum arrived yesterday at Kweilin. Both generals plan to visit the front to-day.—Our Own Correspondent.

London, To-day.

A Reuter despatch from the Norwegian-Finnish frontier states that Soviet troops yesterday completed the occupation of the strip of Arctic territory separating the extreme north-west of Norway from Soviet Russia.

They are reported to have established their headquarters at Salmijaervi. Big numbers of troops and material are being transported south from Petsamo. Observers say the Russians have ten thousand men, not including motorised detachments, operating on this front, while the Finns have no more than one thousand. But the Soviet losses are reported to be heavy.—Reuter.

Paris, To-day.

Well-informed quarters, commenting on yesterday's meeting of the Allied War Council, stress the strong foreign office representation.

It is known that the Council began with an examination of the general situation in which the new factor is the Soviet aggression in Finland.

Semi-officially, it is indicated that the meeting enabled Britain and France to define their attitude in regard to the international equilibrium as altered by the Soviet action.—Reuter.

Washington, To-day.

The U.S.S. Tuscaloosa is reported to have rescued about 400 survivors of the Nazi liner Columbus and is bringing them to New York.

Immigration officials in New York declare that if the special board of inquiry finds the survivors "bona fide merchant seamen" they will be permitted to remain in the United States 60 days and will receive "the same courteous treatment as seamen of any country."

If the board finds any members of the crew to be naval men or spies they will be held for "special disposal."

The Columbus is still floating but is on fire.

The U.S. Navy has broadcast a warning to all shipping that the Columbus and 22 of her lifeboats which are reported to be adrift constitute a menace to navigation.

The liner's position is given as some 500 miles west-south-west of New York.—Reuter.

London, To-day.

The death has occurred of George Eumorfopoulos, the famous connoisseur of Chinese art.—Reuter.

Hankow, To-day.

The French Concession here reopened to-day at 10.30 a.m. following its closure yesterday as part of the drive against alleged Chinese terrorists. Pistols and bombs were found in houses searched and thirteen Chinese were arrested. The Japanese are demanding that these prisoners be handed over to them. Bombs and petrol were later discovered in a house in the ex-Russian Concession in the centre of an area occupied by high Japanese naval authorities.—Reuter.

DEATH

HUNG—At the Cannossa Hospital at 7.30 p.m. on 19th December, 1939, from pneumonia, Walter Hung, aged 30, husband of Phoebe Hung (nee Kotewall). Funeral will leave the Cannossa Hospital at 4 p.m. to-day direct for the Chinese Christian Cemetery, Pokfulam.

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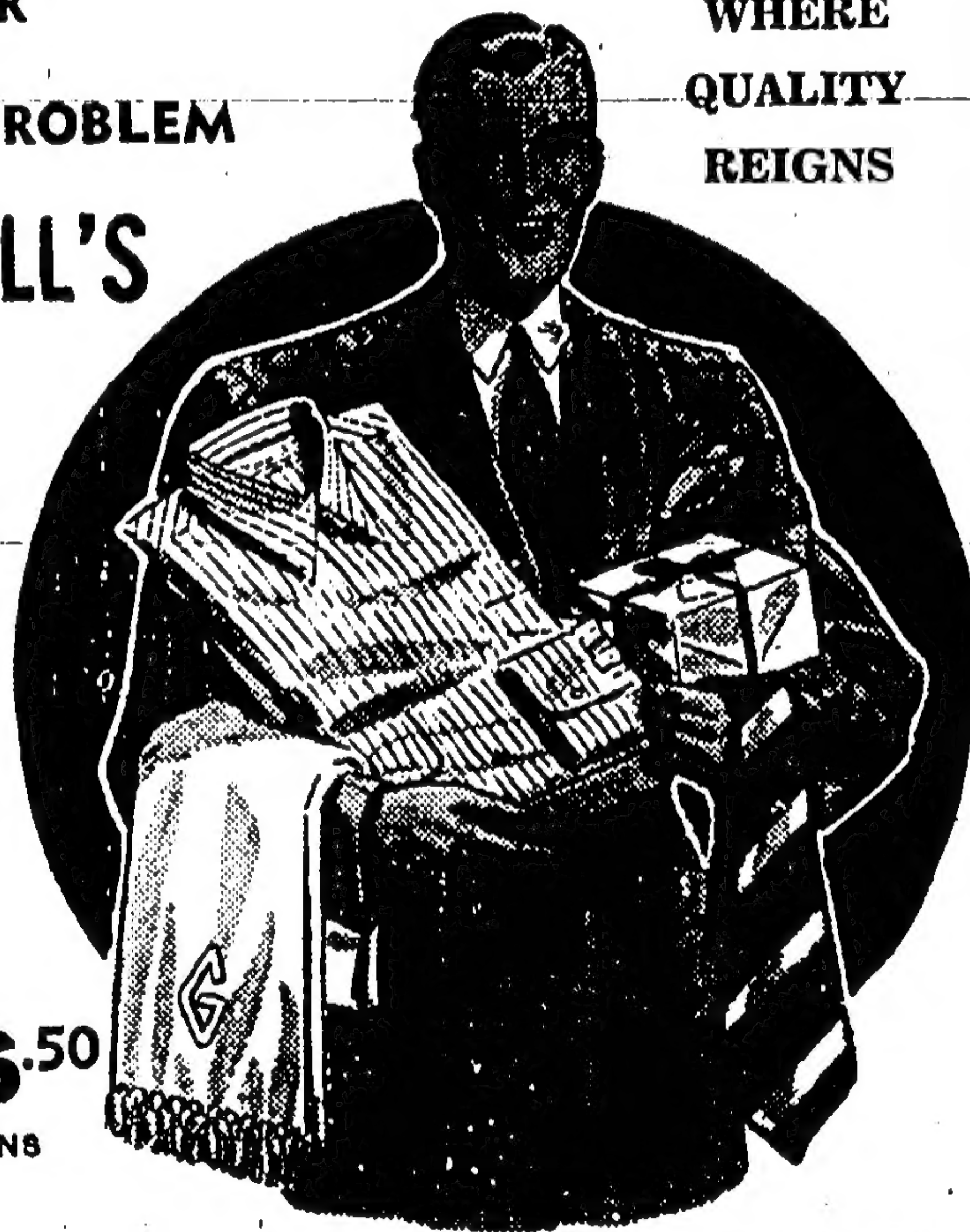
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